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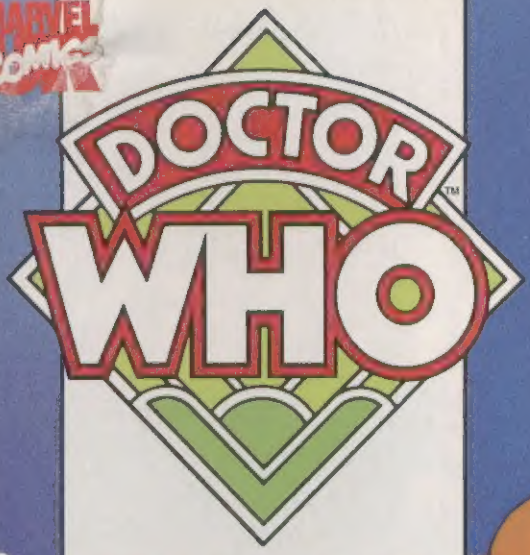

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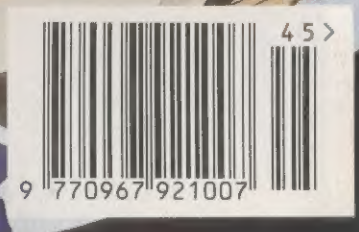

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Doctor Who Classic Comics™ Issue 13. Published by **Marvel Comics UK Ltd.** Jim Galton, Chairman. Vincent Conran, Managing Director. Paul Neary, Editor-in-Chief. Office of Publication: 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX, England. Published every four weeks. All *Doctor Who* material is © 1993 BBC. Diamond Logo © BBC 1973. Anniversary Logo © BBC Enterprises 1993. *The Daleks strip © The Daily Express.* All other material is © Marvel Comics Ltd., unless otherwise indicated. No similarity between any of the fictional names, characters, persons and/or institutions herein with those of any living or dead persons or institutions is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Nothing may be reproduced by any means in whole or part without the written permission of the publishers. This periodical may not be sold, except by authorised dealers, and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. All letters sent to this magazine will be considered for publication, but the publishers cannot be held responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, photographs or artwork. For display advertising contact Jane Smale Tel: 071-497-2121, Fax 071-497-2234. Printed in the UK and distributed by IPC Marketforce, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS 071-261-6061 ISSN 0967-9219

FROM 'THE TIMES'.....4
An introduction to this strange alien race, and a reprint of the page that announced the original design of these foes from *TV Action + Countdown* Issue 72.

THE UGRAKKS..6
The first instalment of this mammoth story pitting the Doctor against a new race of evil aliens. Written by Dennis Hoop er and drawn by Gerry Haylock. From *TV Action + Countdown* Issues 79 – 84.

VWORP VWORP.....25
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THE HIJACKERS OF THRAX.....31
The First Doctor encounters some truly villainous pirates. A complete story with art by Neville Main. Originally presented in *TV Comic* Issues 690 – 692

ON THE WEB PLANET.....38
On a return visit to Vortis, the Doctor again meets some old friends and foes! A complete story with art by Neville Main. Originally presented in *TV Comic* Issues 693 – 698

Welcome to the new-look Doctor Who Classic Comics. Our FREE badge, which should be attached to the front of this issue is merely the first step of a radical change for the magazine. We're not losing any strips but we are going to be adding . . . well, keep your eyes open for the next couple of issues. They'll knock your socks off!

A reminder that our stunning new Classic Comics Holiday Special is now on sale featuring the brand-new adventure *Evening's Empire*. Grab it while you can!

Gary

In the summer of 1972, ***TV Action + Countdown*** ran a competition for readers to design a new monster. The winning design would then be featured in a forthcoming strip. The Doctor himself (Jon Pertwee) took part in the judging alongside the television show's producer Barry Letts, script editor Terrance Dicks as well as ***TV Action + Countdown***'s editor Dennis Hooper and art editor Roger Perry. In Issue 72 the winner was announced: **the Ugrakks**, created by reader Ian Fairnington. Seven weeks later, young Ian saw his creations starring in their own story...

The Winner!

Ian wins our COLOUR TV!

THE JUDGES (from left to right) Dennis Hooper (TV Action Editor), Barry Letts (Dr. Who Producer), Terrance Dicks (Dr. Who Script Editor), John Pertwee, Roger Perry (TV Action Art Editor).

IT'S true to say that everyone at the TV Action offices, was waiting for the materialisation of a London Metropolitan Police Box. It's also true to say we were not disappointed. The only similarity between Jon Pertwee's Alfa Romeo and the Tardis was perhaps a familiar shade of blue.

"Good Heavens. How on Earth are we going to get through the lot?" exploded the elegant figure confronted with the thousands of entries for our Doctor Who competition. "Well," I said, "we always expect the impossible from someone as knowledgeable as The Doctor." Jon Pertwee grinned. In that case I suppose we'd better get busy," he responded as he joined the four judges, Dr. Who Producer, Barry Letts, and Script Editor, Terrance Dicks.

Soon the table was strewn with various piles of varying age-groups. We even had an entrant of 46.

The standard was exceedingly high and it took some considerable time to narrow the entries down to the hundred mark. Not many were easy to eliminate, as all were individually nasty and repetition was rare. In fact only a minimal duplication was found. Who could have thought there was quite clever but not very inventive.

Finally, after a certain amount of amiable arguments, we narrowed them down to a round thirty. At this stage we all thought we'd come to the easy part, but don't you believe it. Pete Roberts, our resident wizard, and you'll see what a problem it was. However, the outright winner, Ian Fairnington's "Ugrakk," was a unanimous decision by us all. So, to lucky Ian goes the first prize of a colour television set.

Above: "It's a bit of a monster Hash!" said Jon Pertwee faced with the massive pile of entries to our Dr Who competition.

Right: The Editor and Jon Pertwee discuss the merits of another entrant.

Above: Editor Dennis Hooper congratulates winner, Ian Fairnington of Meldon, Kent. Above, right: Ian with TV Action and Rediffusion colour television. Right: The ugly but beautifully drawn 'Ugrakk', Ian's own adversary for the Doctor.

Listed below are the 25 runners-up in alphabetical order

Left: JON PERTWEE ponders over his final choice.

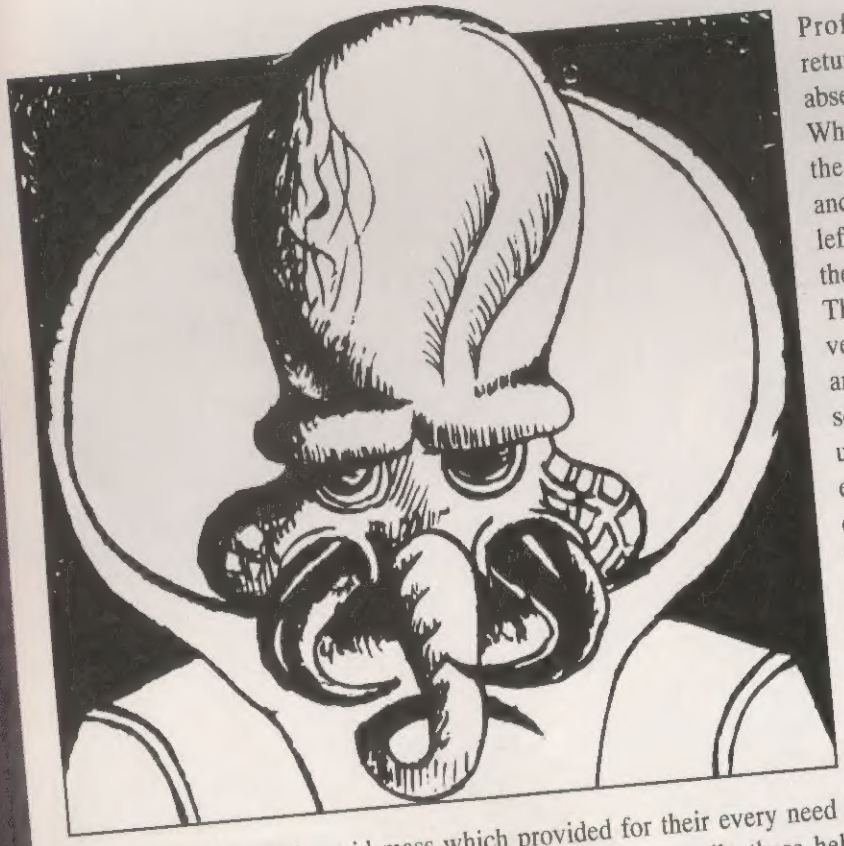
Below: Barry Letts and Terrence Dicks receive a little advice from the Doctor.

THE TIMES

Monday June 3rd, 1926

Rover's Return

A Special Report by Fenton Collier



Professor Lammers of St John's Wood, London returned to his home yesterday after an unexplained absence of fifteen days duration.

When questioned by Inspector Chapman who had lead the police investigation into his apparent disappearance, Professor Lammers divulged that he had in fact left the planet Earth entirely to become a traveller in the Etha.

The Professor claims to have constructed a one-man vehicle capable of escaping the Earth's force of gravity and had intended to pilot it to Mars. However, it would seem that the Professor's calculations were somewhat unreliable as he soon found himself to have crash landed on a planetary body not within the boundaries of our own solar system.

There he claims to have encountered a fantastic race of intelligent fungus creatures known as Ugrakks. Totally unlike anything on our own mother Earth, these Ugrakks apparently resembled blue tusked Elephants who walked upright, as if like a man. These bizarre creatures inhabited some form of giant fungoid mass which provided for their every need and it was to here that the Professor was taken against his will. Naturally these hellish monsters forced Lammers into hideous alien bondage and he was forced to do their bidding.

It would seem that the repellent Ugrakks, who were able to control all plant life, were slowly losing a battle with a hideous race of giant insects known as Zama flies. The enslaved Professor's task was to use his advance knowledge of science to locate and entrap an alien known as a Time Lord, capable of instantaneous travel to any point in the Universe. With a Time Lord's power in their possession, the fiendish Ugrakks would be able to escape to another world and be free of the menace of the Zama flies.

Having successfully located a Time Lord, Professor Lammers claims to have joined forces with him to defeat the loathsome Ugrakks who, naturally, were beyond all reason.

Victorious, the Professor was returned home by this benign alien Time Lord whose vehicle, insists the Professor, was larger on the inside than it is on the outside.

Professor Lammers in eighty-four and is receiving treatment in St Rodney's Hospital, Islington. Police are not expected to press charges.

WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 1972 Issue No 79

TV ACTION + countdown

5p

GREAT NEW DR.WHO STORY BEGINS TODAY...

The UGRAKKS

AS CREATED BY OUR COMPETITION WINNER!

Ian Fairnington

SOMETHING'S TAKEN CONTROL OF THE TARDIS!

BILLIONS OF MILES FROM EARTH, ALIEN EYES WATCH THEIR LATEST CAPTURE ...

EXCELLENT! ANOTHER CAPTURE... KEEP AT MAXIMUM POWER.

DR.WHO

THE UGRAKKS—Part One

After defeating the reverse-matter Zerons and saving the Earth yet again, the Doctor returns to his battered Tardis. No sooner has he operated the power source of his time and space machine, when . . .

BUT THE STRANGE EVIL CREATURE RECKONS WITHOUT A KNOWLEDGE OF THE DOCTOR'S EXTRAORDINARY POWERS...

COULD IT BE A NATURAL PHENOMENON... A TIME TORNADO...? WHATEVER IT IS, I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO FIGHT IT YET.

I CAN ONLY WAIT FOR A LULL IN THE POWER CENTRE.
FOR SEVERAL HOURS, THE NIGHTMARE JOURNEY CONTINUES—THROUGH EARTH'S GALAXY AND BEYOND...
THE TARDIS'S PROGRESS IS CLOSELY MONITORED...
DECLINING ARC, REDUCE POWER.
THE OBSERVANT TIME TRAVELLER IS QUICK TO SPOT HIS DECELERATION...
SO, SOMEONE IS TRYING TO TRAP ME!
NOW'S MY CHANCE TO ESCAPE... OR PERHAPS IT WOULD BE MORE INTERESTING TO SEE WHO'S SO ANXIOUS TO CAPTURE ME.
THE POWER SOURCE IS DEFINITELY COMING FROM THERE. TIME I BROKE AWAY.
AND SO, MOMENTS LATER...
THAT'S GIVEN THEM SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.
THE DOCTOR IS NOT WRONG...
HE'S ESCAPING—APPLY MAXIMUM POWER, YOU FOOL!

DO SOMETHING, YOU OLD FOOL!
I CAN'T... I CAN'T! THE UNIT WON'T TOLERATE ANOTHER OVERLOAD.
IT SEEMS TO OFFER SOME PRIMITIVE LIFE SUPPORTS. BUT IT WAS NO PRIMITIVE WHICH DRAGGED ME HALFWAY ACROSS THE UNIVERSE.
YOU INCOMPETENT, USELESS WRECK!
GOOD FORTUNE TO THE ONE WHO ESCAPED — NONE OTHER SHOULD BE CURSED WITH MY MISERY.
MEANWHILE...
THE POWER SOURCE HAS CEASED, WHICH MEANS, I HOPE, THEY'VE GIVEN ME UP FOR LOST.
NOT LONG AFTER...
SOON...
NOT EXACTLY PARADISE — I SUPPOSE A LITTLE EXPLORATION MIGHT ANSWER A FEW UNSOLVED QUESTIONS.
● ART: GERRY HAYLOCK
© 1972 BBC tv Ent.
FUNGUS AND LICHEN FOREST AND LITTLE ELSE. HELLO...
SOMETHING'S CHEWED THIS, WHICH AT LEAST PROVES THAT ANIMAL LIFE EXISTS.
SUDDENLY...
WHAT THE...

WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 1972 ISSUE No 80

TV ACTION + countdown

5p

THE UGRAKKS—Part Two

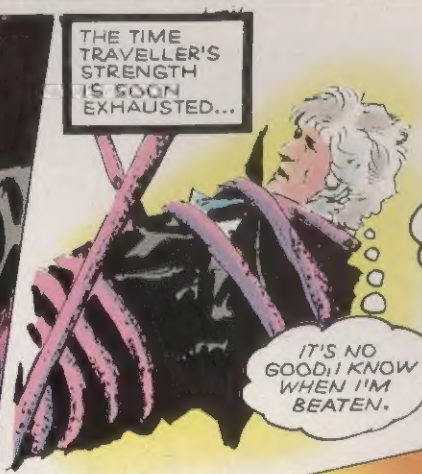
His Tardis drawn through space by an abnormal power, the Doctor escapes, after finding it originates from a mysterious planet. Voluntarily, he later lands on its surface to confront the source of the strange force . . .

A FAIRY STORY IF EVER I HEARD ONE.
IF YOU MEAN A TOUR OF THE BEAUTY SPOTS I DON'T THINK I'M OVER EAGER.
I SEE YOU ARE A MAN OF HUMOUR. COME! LET ME TAKE YOU TO OUR CITY.
AND IF I REFUSE?
WHY WOULD SUCH AN INQUISITIVE MIND REFUSE TO FURTHER HIS KNOWLEDGE?
VERY WELL, LEAD THE WAY.
ALTHOUGH I HAVE DISTINCTLY UNEASY FEELINGS ABOUT YOU.
SO UNEASY THAT I THINK I'LL TRY A LITTLE EXPERIMENT.
AND SO...
THIS LOOKS A LIKELY SPOT.
© 1972 BBC tv Ent.
ART: GERRY HAYLOCK
BUT THE DOCTOR'S ABSENCE IS SOON NOTICED.
SO THE FOOL THINKS HE CAN ESCAPE THE POWER OF THE UGRAKKS!
THE STRANGE POWERS OF THE REPULSIVE ALIEN ARE SET INTO MOTION...
BUT THE DOCTOR IS ALREADY SOME DISTANCE FROM THE UGRAKK...
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE FOLLOWED. PERHAPS I WAS WRONG ABOUT HIM AFTER ALL.

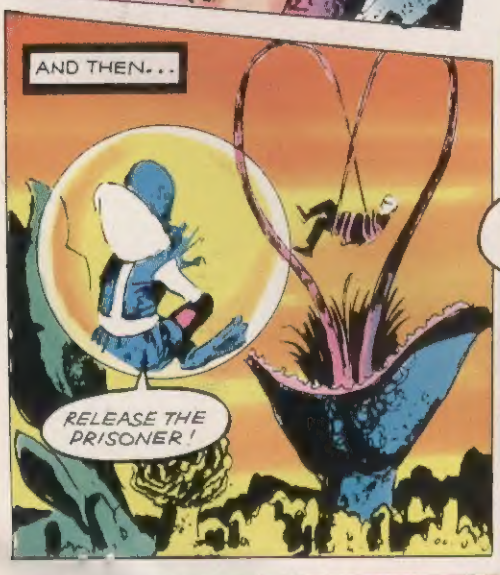
I SUPPOSE HIS EXPLANATION IS PLAUSIBLE, I COULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT HERE BY ACCIDENT...
MY SUSPICIONS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN UNFOUNDED...

BUT THEN A WHISPER OF MOVEMENT BEHIND THE TRAVELLER...
WHAT THE DICKENS!?

GET OFF, YOU BRUTE!

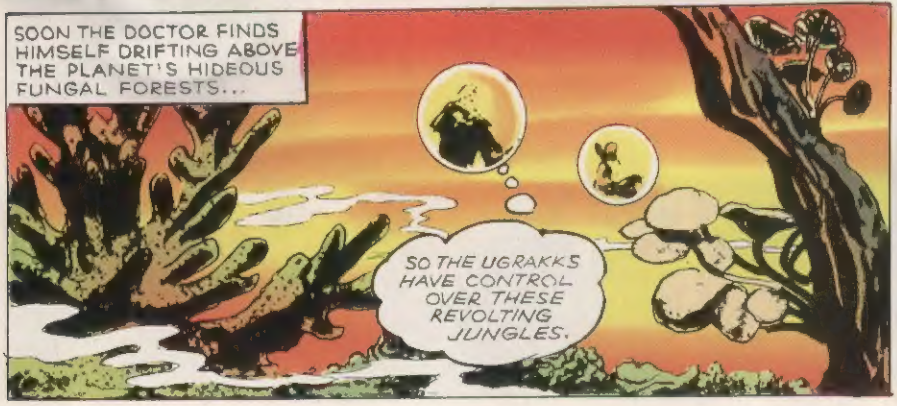

THE TIME TRAVELLER'S STRENGTH IS SOON EXHAUSTED...
IT'S NO GOOD; I KNOW WHEN I'M BEATEN.

AND BEFORE LONG...
NOT ONLY BEATEN, BUT EATEN AS WELL IT WOULD SEEM.
STOP!


AND THEN...
RELEASE THE PRISONER!

I SEE MY WORST FEARS ARE CONFIRMED.
YOU CANNOT ESCAPE THE UGRAKKS.

AND IF THAT IS THE CASE; HOW WILL I EVER GET OFF THIS NIGHTMARE PLANET AGAIN?


SOON THE DOCTOR FINDS HIMSELF DRIFTING ABOVE THE PLANET'S HIDEOUS FUNGAL FORESTS...
SO THE UGRAKKS HAVE CONTROL OVER THESE REVOLTING JUNGLES.

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 2, 1972 Issue No 81

TV ACTION + countdown

5p

OUT OF THE MIST IN GLOOM..
IT WOULD SEEM WE'VE ARRIVED
SO, EVEN THEIR CITY IS A GIGANTIC LIVING THING.
I'D HATE TO THINK WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO US WITHOUT THE PROTECTION OF THESE BUBBLES
DRAWN DOWN BY THE PLANT'S OWN DIGESTIVE SYSTEM, HOW VERY INGENIOUS!
AND FINALLY...
A RECEPTION COMMITTEE!
WOULD YOU MIND LETTING ME OUT. I FIND THE CONFINEMENT RATHER CLAUSTROPHOBIC.
AND ABOUT TIME TOO.
I AM DEMUR, LEADER OF THE UGRAKKS, WHO ARE YOU?

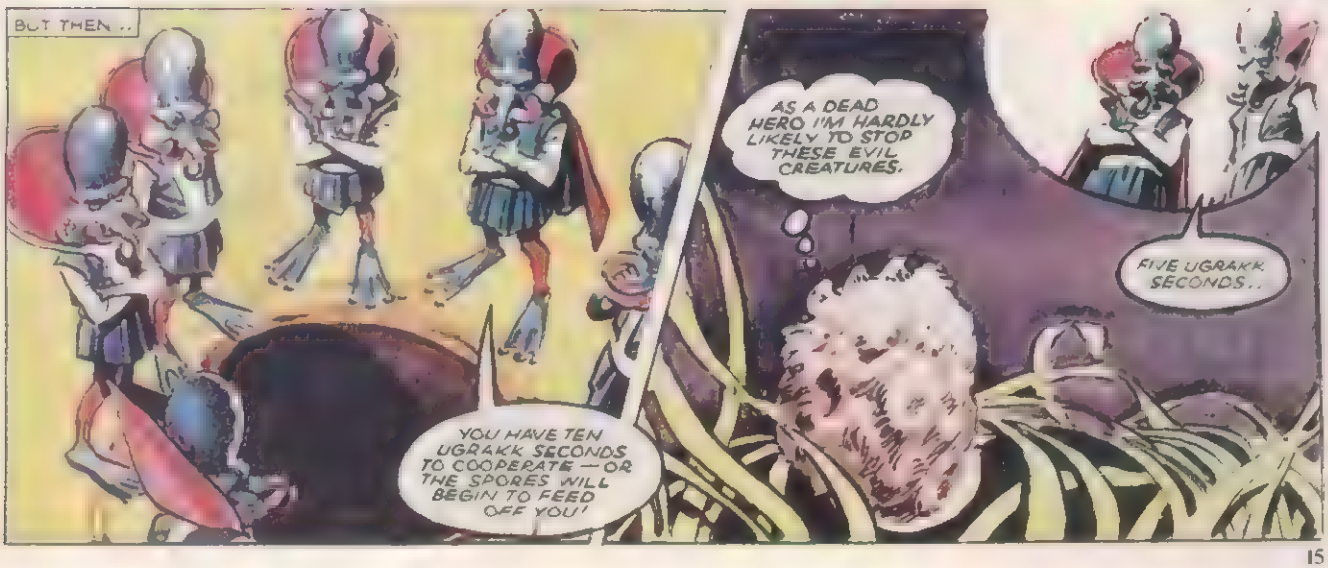
● ART: GERRY HAYLOCK

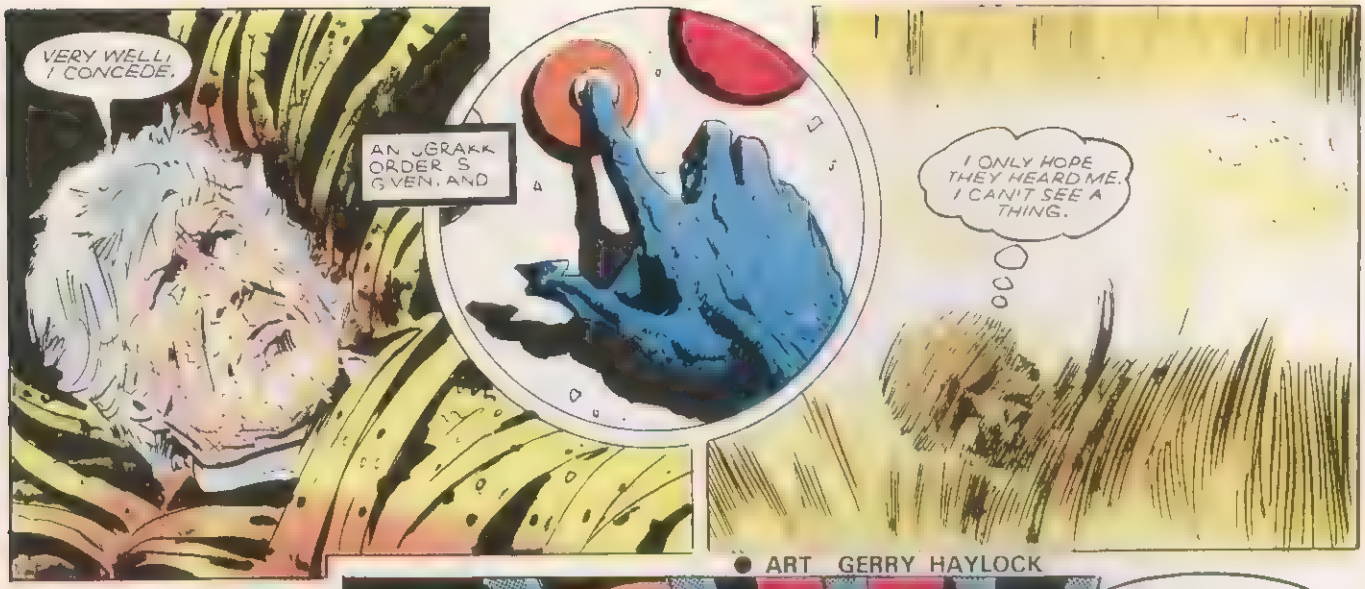
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 9, 1972 Issue No 82

TV ACTION + countdown

5p

The Persuaders NEW STORY STARTS TODAY





● ART GERRY HAYLOCK

© 1972 BBC tv Ent

AND WHO, PRAY, ARE YOU?
PROFESSOR LAMMERS OF THE 20th. CENTURY. I HAD THE MISFORTUNE TO CRASH MY SPACESHIP ON THIS NIGHTMARE PLANET.
BEFORE THE PROFESSOR CAN CONTINUE...
ATTACK IMMINENT!
I WILL RETURN SHORTLY.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
JUST ANOTHER ATTACK.
THE INSECTS ATTACK AGAIN.
THEN THE UGRAKKS HAVE ENEMIES.
YES, DOCTOR. THE UGRAKKS LIVE IN FEAR. THE ZAMA FLIES BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE AT EACH ATTACK.
A VERY INTERESTING SPECIES.
THE DOCTOR WATCHES FASCINATED AS THE STRANGE BATTLE GOES ON ..
EVEN THE FUNGUS ACTS AS A WEAPON.
EVERYTHING IS DOMINATED BY THE UGRAKK CONTROL OVER THEIR PLANET'S FLORA, DOCTOR.
THIS FELLOW LOOKS PARTICULARLY AGGRESSIVE...

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 1972 Issue No 83

TV ACTION + countdown

5p

Win a Kodak Instamatic Camera: see page 10

THEN I THINK WE'LL TRY AND CADGE A FREE FLIGHT. COME ON!
IT SEEMS EXCEEDINGLY DANGEROUS, DOCTOR.
SOMEHOW THE PROFESSOR CONJURES UP ENOUGH NERVE TO FOLLOW
DON'T FLY AWAY JUST YET— OR WE'LL BE LEFT IN ONE VERY TIGHT SPOT
BUT THEN...
HURRY, LAMMERS, OUR TRANSPORT IS ABOUT TO TAKE-OFF!
LEAVE ME, DOCTOR. TAKE YOUR OWN CHANCE...
© 1972 BBC tv Ent
I WOULDN'T GET FAR WITHOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THIS NIGHTMARE PLANET. COME ON, WE CAN STILL MAKE IT.
HOLD TIGHT, PROFESSOR.
BUT INSIDE THE BESIEGED UGRAKK CITY.
THEY MUST BE STOPPED!
● ART · GERRY HAYLOCK
UGRAKK POWER OVER THE PLANET'S PLANT LIFE IS SOON IN EVIDENCE.
IS THAT A NATURAL INSTINCT OF THE PLANTS?
NO, DOCTOR, IT MEANS THE UGRAKKS KNOW WE'VE GONE. WE CAN EXPECT WORSE.
NO SOONER HAS THE PROFESSOR'S WARNING LEFT HIS LIPS...
AND...
WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?
SEEDS! DEADLY SPORES.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW ?
I'M AFRAID OUR FLIGHT IS DUE FOR AN EMERGENCY LANDING.
THE SPORES QUICKLY DEVELOP INTO FUNGUS GROWTHS ON THE FLY'S BODY !
AND SO THEY LOSE HEIGHT..
I THINK WE'D BETTER BALE-OUT
IT'S CERTAIN SUICIDE, WHATEVER WE DO...
IT'S NOW OR NEVER, MY FRIEND.
AND SO...
OUCH!
OOF!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, PROFESSOR?
JUST WINDED, DOCTOR... I'LL BE FINE IN A MINUTE OR TWO.
AT LEAST WE SEEM TO BE SAFE FOR THE MOMENT.
I'M AFRAID YOUR HOPES MAY BE SHORT LIVED, DOCTOR. UNLESS WE FIND A SUITABLE HIDING PLACE, THE UGRAKKS WILL FIND US.
AND IN THE UGRAKK CITY.
SO OUR ESCAPERS HAVE BEEN LOCATED RELEASE THE SPORES!

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 1972 ISSUE No 84

TV ACTION + countdown

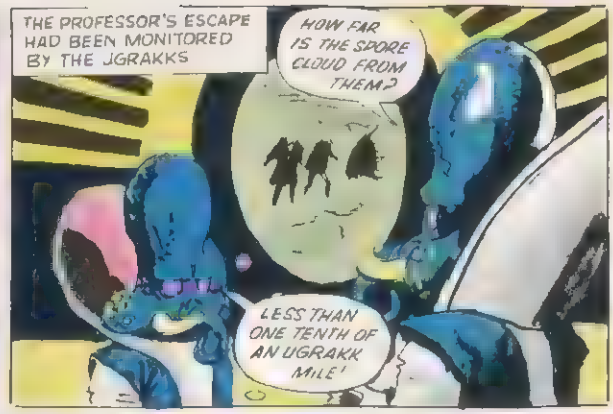
5p

THE UGRAKKS—Part Six

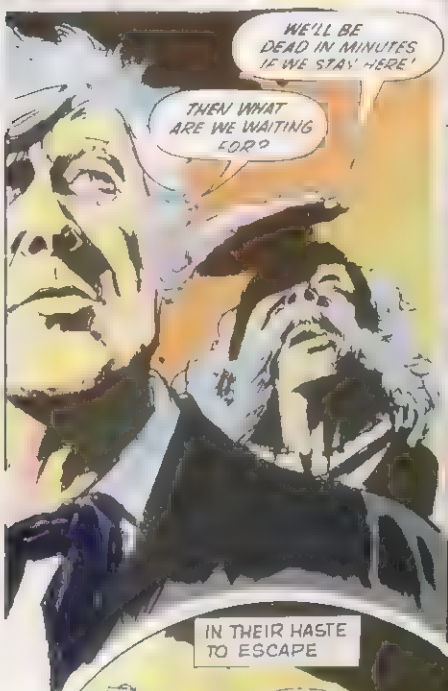
The Doctor and Professor Lammers have escaped from the Ugrakks, evil creatures who control the fungus plant life of a mysterious, dark planet. Exposed on a precarious rocky outcrop, the Doctor thinks they've reached safety. But Professor Lammers sees a new and terrifying danger . .

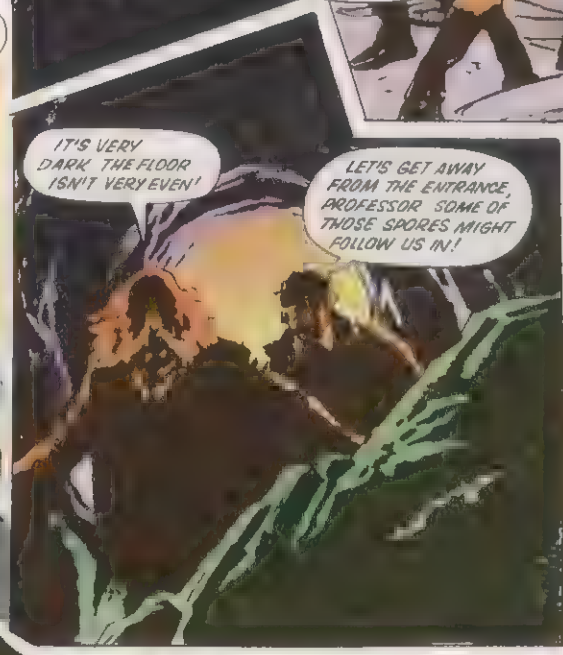
● ART: GERRY HAYLOCK

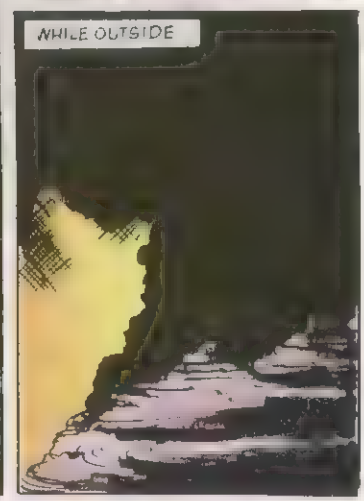
HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?
OUR PROBLEMS AREN'T OVER YET - WE STILL HAVE TO FIND SHELTER FROM THAT CLOUD OF DEATH!


THE PROFESSOR'S ESCAPE HAD BEEN MONITORED BY THE JGRAKKS
HOW FAR IS THE SPORE CLOUD FROM THEM?
LESS THAN ONE TENTH OF AN UGRAKK MILE!

EVEN AS THE UGRAKK SPEAKS
A SUDDEN DARKENING FOREWARNS THE FUGITIVES
I CAN'T SAY IT LOOKS VERY INVITING, DOCTOR!
I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TIME TO BE CHOOSEY, LAMMERS!


WE'LL BE DEAD IN MINUTES IF WE STAY HERE!
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?


IT'S VERY DARK. THE FLOOR ISN'T VERY EVEN!
LET'S GET AWAY FROM THE ENTRANCE, PROFESSOR. SOME OF THOSE SPORES MIGHT FOLLOW US IN!


WHILE OUTSIDE

IN THEIR HASTE TO ESCAPE
AHH!
OOF!

WHAT IN SPACE IS IT?
IT COULD BE SOME SORT OF MUSHROOM - IN WHICH CASE, WE CAN EXPECT THE INEVITABLE!

THE SECRETS OF GEMINO

TV Comic
Issues 753 - 757
(21.5.66 - 18.6.66)
Pages: 8 & 9 (Colour)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The Doctor and his grandchildren land on the planet Gemina which has been devastated by a war with its neighbouring planet, Gemino.

On meeting the survivors, the Doctor offers to help open the sealed 'Vault of Plenty' where all the planet's food supplies and knowledge are held.

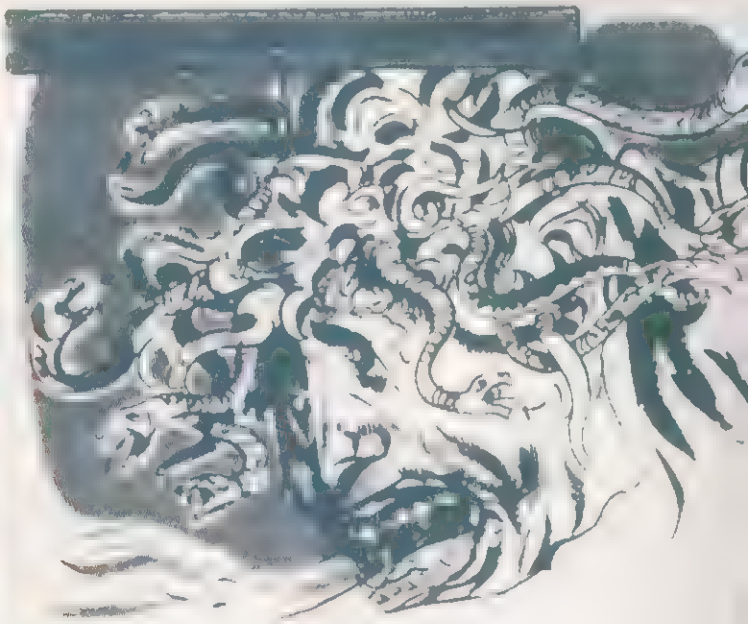
The Doctor, John and Gillian have to solve a variety of challenging puzzles and the price for failure is death!

One of the undoubted highlights of this adventure is the Doctor's line, "Quickly children, arm yourself with chairs"!

GUESTS OF KING NEPTUNE

TV Comic Holiday Special (1966)
Pages: 12 &13 (Duotone)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The Doctor, John and Gillian arrive on a south sea island on Earth. There they escape from an erupting volcano and discover King Neptune who rules his domain from inside a giant sandcastle.



THE GAZE OF THE GORGON

TV Comic Holiday Special (1966)
Pages: 36 & 37 (Unknown)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The Doctor, John and Gillian arrive on the Planet Zeno which they discover to be inhabited by the legendary Gorgon.

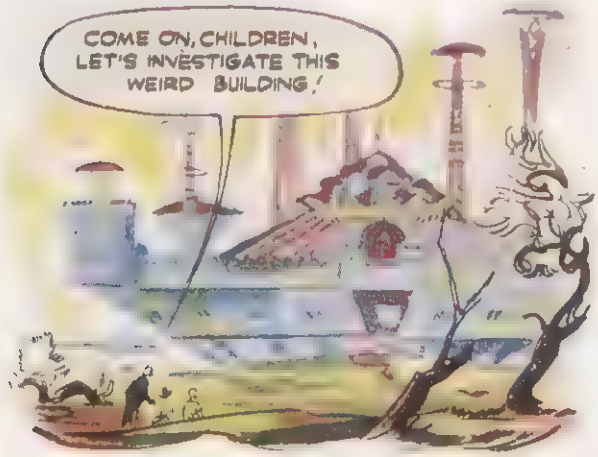
©BBC Video

THE HAUNTED PLANET

TV Comic
Issues 758 - 762
(25.6.66 - 23.7.66)
Pages: 8 & 9 (Colour)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

Landing on the legendary Haunted Planet, the Doctor and his companions make their way to a space age castle. There they discover the evil Zentor who is planning to hold the Universe to ransom with a deadly gas.

From Issue 763, *Doctor Who* was replaced on pages eight and nine by a new serial based on the television series, *Orlando* and was illustrated by Bill Mevin.



THE HUNTERS OF ZEROX

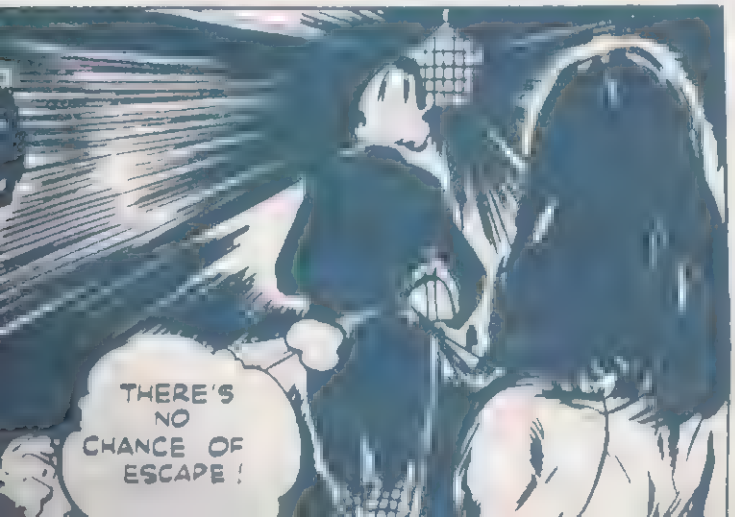
TV Comic
Issues 763 - 764
(30.7.66 - 27.8.66)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

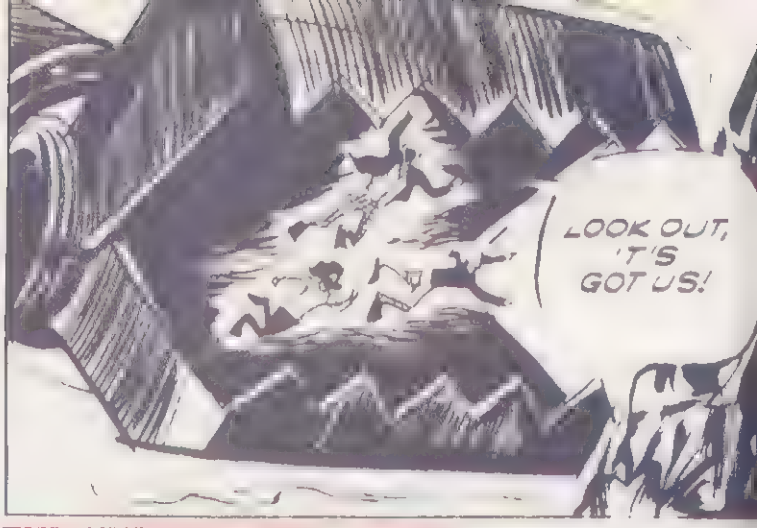
Landing on the planet Zerox, the Doctor leaves John and Gillian in the TARDIS and goes to explore.

Captured by natives, the Doctor is forced to battle a strange beast in an arena for the amusement of the native's Emperor. The Doctor manages to defeat the creature and escape but he is pursued by the Emperor and his men in a manhunt!

The strip had now returned to its original position in the paper, was no longer landscaped and was once again in black and white.

We learn in this adventure that the Doctor wears a wrist watch which conceals a sonic beam.





THE UNDERWATER ROBOT

TV Comic
Issues 768 - 771
(3.9.66 - 24.9.66)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The TARDIS lands underwater. Wearing special breathing masks and flippers, the Doctor, John and Gillian explore the marine world. However, they are soon captured by a giant underwater robot which is powered by slave labour and controlled by an evil professor.

It is revealed in this story that the TARDIS contains an airlock, the door of which is on the roof of the police box.

For some unexplained reason the apparently human slaves are able to breathe underwater. John and Gillian also comment on the amazing fact that they are able to hear each other talking without artificial aid whilst submerged. "I'm afraid it has me baffled," is the Doctor's reply!

DEADLY VESSEL

TV Comic Annual 1967
Pages: 5 - 8 (Colour)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The TARDIS materialises on an unmanned boat which carries a deadly bomb as its cargo. Trapped within the boats forcefield, the TARDIS is unable to take off. The Doctor must devise a way of disabling the force field and diverting the vessel before it hits its target.

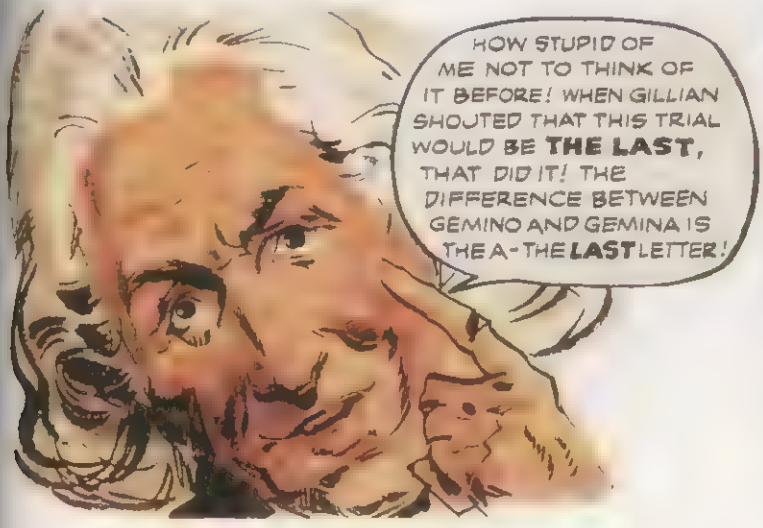
Probably one of the best of the First Doctor strips as the Doctor's solution to the problem is both ingenious and credible.

KINGDOM OF THE ANIMALS

TV Comic Annual 1967
Pages: 89 - 92 (Colour)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The TARDIS makes a stop on a lush green world. After scaring off an ugly cat like creature, John and Gillian are captured and imprisoned by a race of giant birds.

This is very much a 'cautionary' tale for children containing not one but two lessons. 1: Never judge by appearances. 2: Be kind to animals.



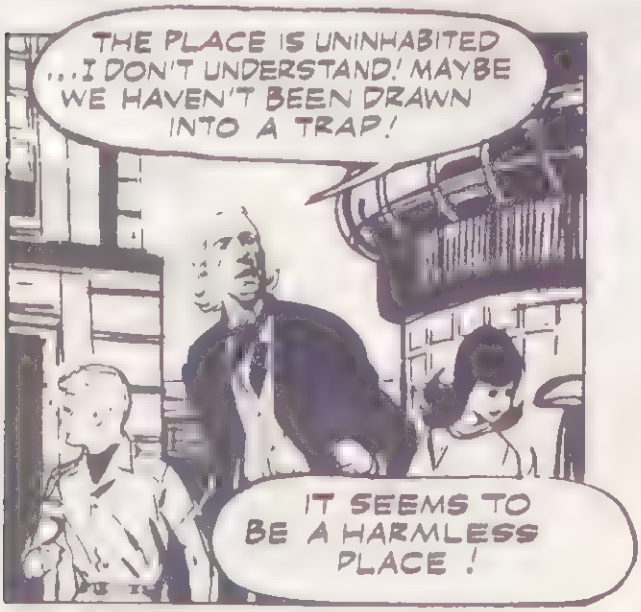
RETURN OF THE TRODS

TV Comic
Issues 772 - 775
(1.10.66 - 22.10.66)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The TARDIS is drawn off course and materialises in a futuristic space city. The Doctor and his grandchildren are horrified to discover that they are up against their old enemies, the Trods.

The Trods have been reactivated by another space traveller who is controlling their actions.

The Doctor, John and Gillian are forced to enter the buildings of the city which are full of traps.



THE GALAXY GAMES

TV Comic
Issues 776 - 779
(29.10.66 - 19.11.66)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

The TARDIS lands at the Galaxy Games. The games have been dominated by a competitor from the planet Klondite. However, the Doctor realises that even the Klondite is a poor athlete by Earth standards.

The Doctor enters John in the games as Earth's representative. However, the Klondites attempt to stop John from competing by kidnapping him.

THE EXPERIMENTERS

TV Comic
Issues 780 - 783
(26.11.66 – 17.12.66)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: John Canning

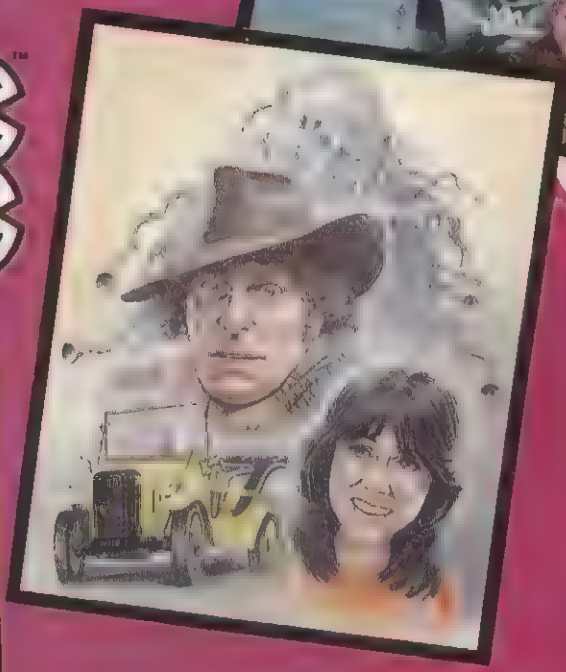
When the TARDIS lands in a crater, the Doctor and his grandchildren are immediately taken prisoner by the 'Master Race'.

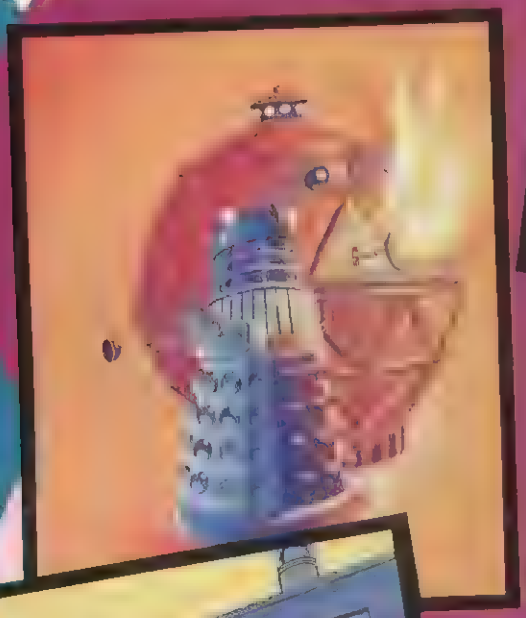
The Master Race use the travellers and other prisoners to test their new scientific advances.

The Doctor extols his belief in this adventure that "fate is always on the side of justice."

This was to be the final adventure to feature the First Doctor. ✧

BACK ISSUES OF





Marvel are now able to offer a limited number of *Doctor Who Classic Comics* back issues to readers. The rates (which include postage, packing and handling) are as follows: UK £3.00; Overseas (Surface Mail) £3.60; Overseas (Air Mail) £4.60. To order, list the issues required and send a cheque or Postal Order for the correct amount (payments in British Sterling or US dollar equivalent only) to:

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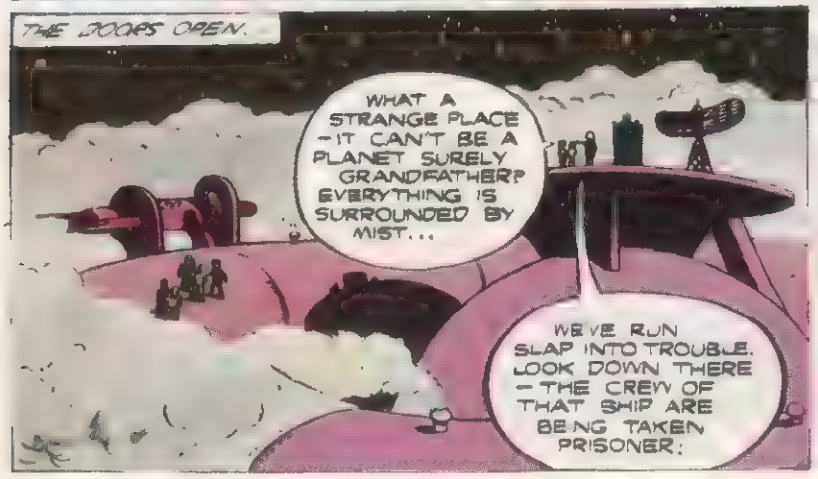
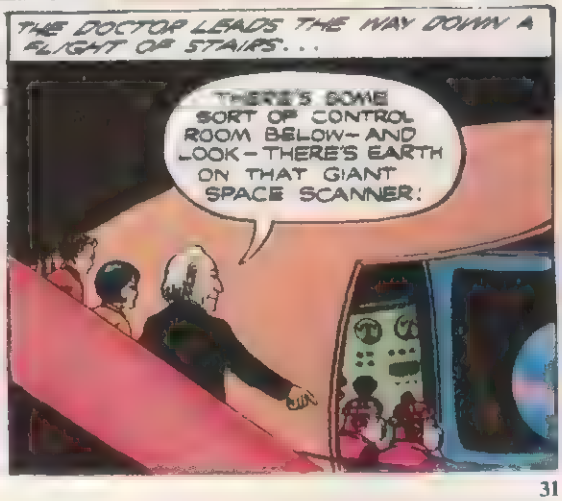
Issues 1, 3 & 4 are *totally* sold out

DOCTOR WHO

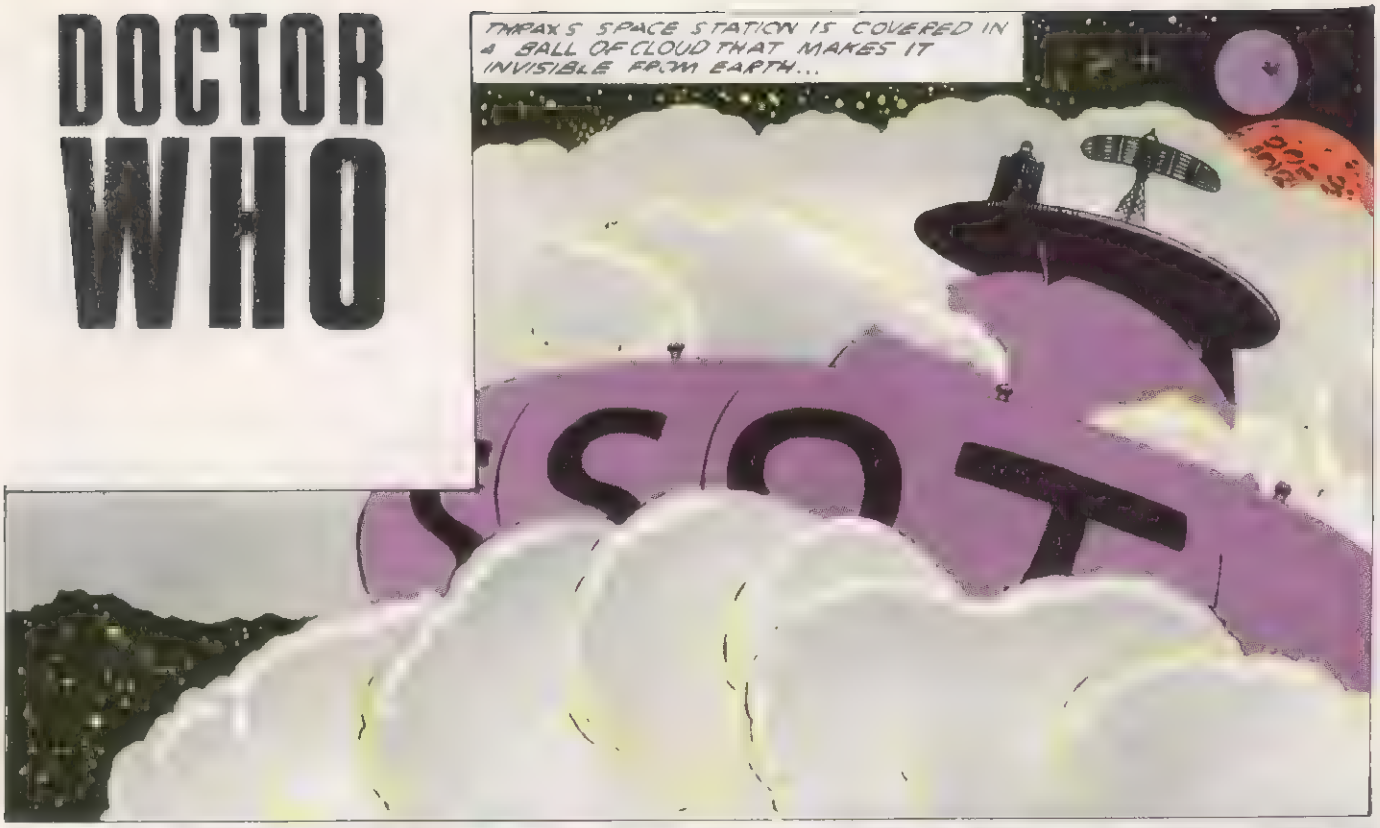
The year 2075. A small spaceship leaves Earth with food and supplies for the colony on Venus

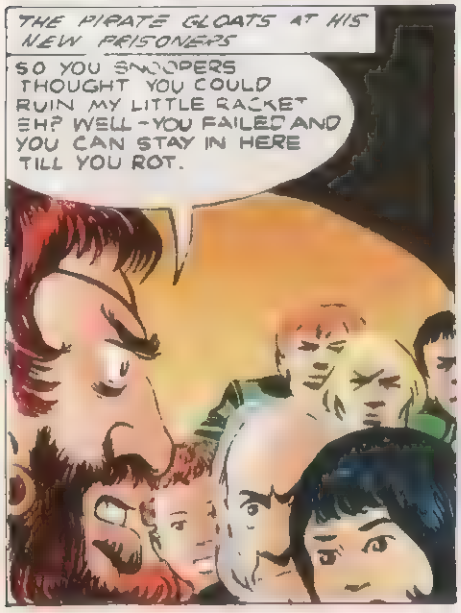




THE JIGSAW IS STARTING TO FIT TOGETHER! I THINK WE'VE LANDED ON A SPACE STATION NOT FAR FROM EARTH—BUT I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK OF THE CROWD WHO'RE RUNNING IT! WE MUST CONTACT THE PRISONERS—SEE IF THEY CAN HELP SOLVE THE MYSTERY!
KEEPING TO THE SHADOWS THEY CONTINUE THIER QUEST...
THAT UGLY CUSTOMER IS STANDING GUARD! THE PRISONERS ARE PROBABLY INSIDE—BUT I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK OF HIS GUN!
DON'T WORRY—I'LL SOON DEAL WITH HIM!
NEXT MOMENT...
UNNNK!
NICE WORK JOHN! I'LL GRAB HIS KEY AND GET THE DOOR OPEN!
THE DOOR CRASHES BACK...
WHO'S THIS CHARACTER—ANOTHER OF THRAX'S CRONIES?
DON'T WORRY—WE'RE FRIENDS AND WE'LL HELP YOU ESCAPE! BUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
SWIFTLY A PRISONER EXPLAINS...
WE'RE ON A SPACE STATION CAPTURED BY CAPTAIN ANASTAS THRAX AND A BUNCH OF PIRATES: THE STATION IS SURROUNDED BY AN INVISIBLE MIST AND IT CAN'T BE SEEN FROM EARTH! THRAX HAS A MACHINE THAT TAKES CONTROL OF SPACE SHIPS' ENGINES, BRINGS THEM HERE—THEN THE FOOD AND SUPPLIES ARE SOLD TO OTHER PLANETS.
SO THESE PIRATES ARE RUNNING A BLACK MARKET IN SPACE: RIGHT, WE'LL HAVE TO SETTLE WITH CAPTAIN THRAX:
GRANDFATHER, LOOK OUT!
SETTLE WITH CAP'N THRAX, EH, M'HEARTY? YOU'LL HAVE TO GET UP EARLY TO DO THAT: DON'T MOVE ANY OF YOU—OR I'LL BLAST YOU TO ATOMS:
NEVILLE MAIN

DOCTOR WHO


THRAX'S SPACE STATION IS COVERED IN A BALL OF CLOUD THAT MAKES IT INVISIBLE FROM EARTH...


THE PIRATE GLOATS AT HIS NEW PRISONERS
SO YOU SNOOPERS THOUGHT YOU COULD RUIN MY LITTLE RACKET EH? WELL - YOU FAILED AND YOU CAN STAY IN HERE TILL YOU ROT.

THRAX HEADS FOR THE CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM
THAT'S DEALT WITH THOSE SPACE LUBBERS NOW - CALL UP THE EARTH COLONY ON VENUS: THEY'RE SHORT OF SUPPLIES AND THE SHIP WE'VE JUST CAUGHT HAS GOT A RICH HAUL ABOARD.

HALLO M'HEARTY ! HEAR YOU'RE DESPERATELY SHORT OF FOOD I'VE GOT PLENTY - BUT IT'LL COST YOU TEN THOUSAND EARTH POUNDS
YOU INHUMAN MONSTER THRAX. I'LL HAVE TO PAY - OR MY PEOPLE WILL STARVE.

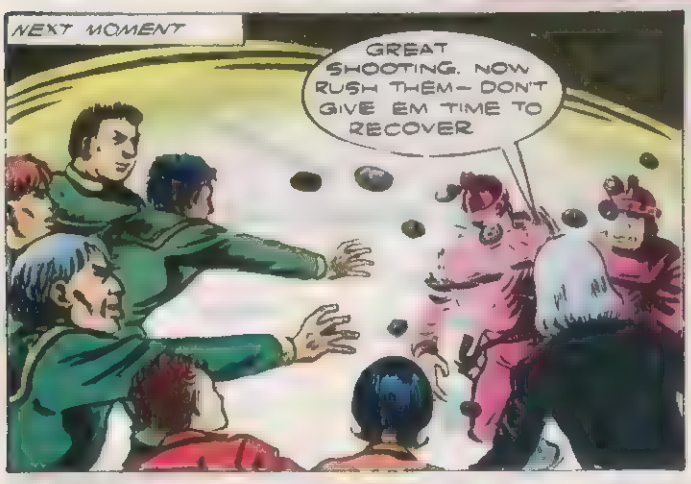
MEANWHILE
COME ALONG COME ALONG WE CAN'T SIT AROUND HERE! WE MUST GET OUT - THROW A SPANNER IN THRAX'S NASTY WORKS.
THIS SOAP WILL COME IN HANDY.

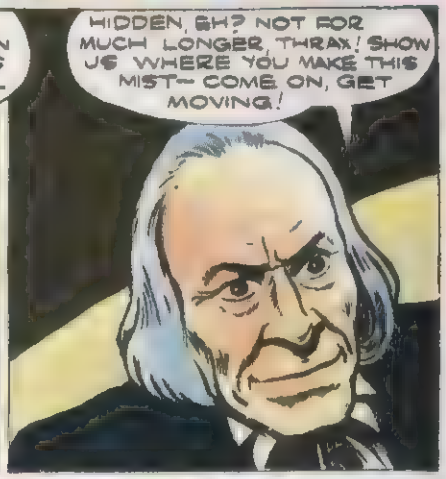
WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT? HOW CAN SOAP HELP US?
I'M MAKING SURE THE GUARD GETS A SLIPPERY WELCOME.

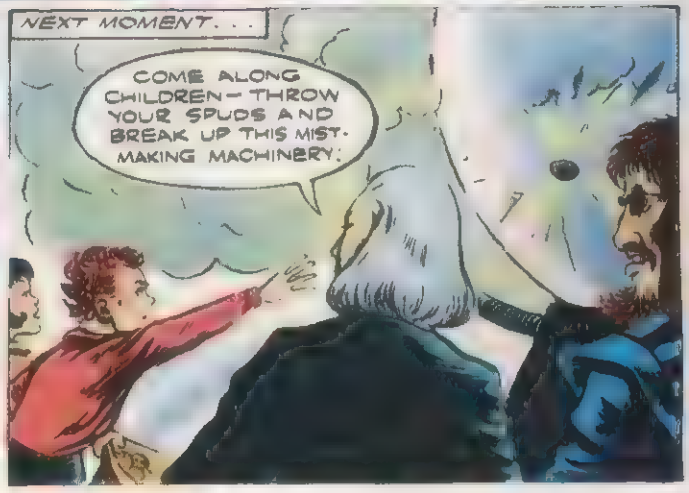
LATER
HERE'S YOUR FOOD - AAAGH
NOW'S OUR CHANCE QUICK - OUTSIDE AND LOCK THIS SCOUNDREL UP BEFORE HE CAN RAISE THE ALARM
MAKE FOR THE LAUNCHING SECTION BEFORE THRAX FINDS WE'VE GONE. THERES NO TIME TO LOSE
BUT WITHIN SECONDS THE PIRATE CAPTAIN HEARS THE NEWS
CAPTAIN THRAX - THE PRISONERS HAVE ESCAPED!
WHAAAT? I'LL HAVE SOMEONE'S HIDE FOR THIS! GRAB EM - DON'T LET 'EM GET AWAY!
THE PRISONERS REACH THE LAUNCHING SECTION
KNOCK THEM COLD, BOYS
GET THE DOORS OPEN - TIMES RUNNING SHORT
INSIDE THE SHIP - ALL OF YOU
NO. YOU GO AND WARN EARTH - BUT THE REST MUST STAY. THIS STATION IS INVISIBLE - IF WE ALL LEAVE WE'LL NEVER FIND IT AGAIN!
THE SHIP BLASTS AWAY FROM THE SPACE STATION.
CALLING EARTH CALLING EARTH STAND BY FOR EMERGENCY ACTION - THERE'S A BUNCH OF SPACE PIRATES TO BE MOPPED UP.
ES 99
GET HOLD OF SOME OF THESE SACKS. WE MUST SMASH THRAX'S BLACK MARKET!
GRANDFATHER - IT'S TOO LATE! HERE COME THE GUARDS!
TATOE

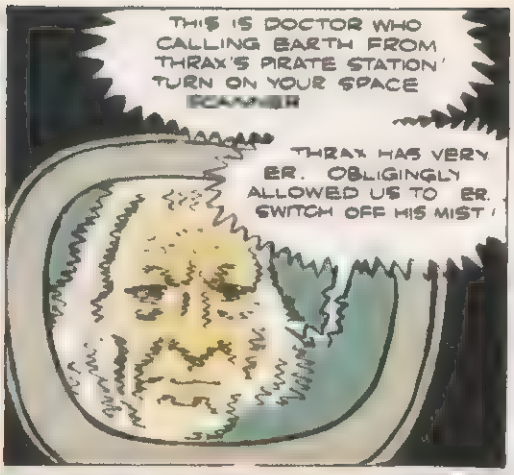
DOCTOR WHO

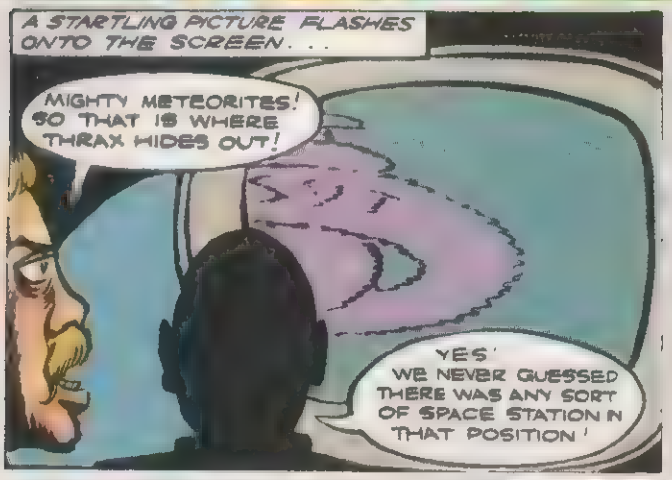
Doctor Who, John and Gillian have landed on a space station run by a gang of space pirates led by Captain Anastas Thrax. With other prisoners they make for the launching section where some escape to earth. Then Thrax's guards appear.

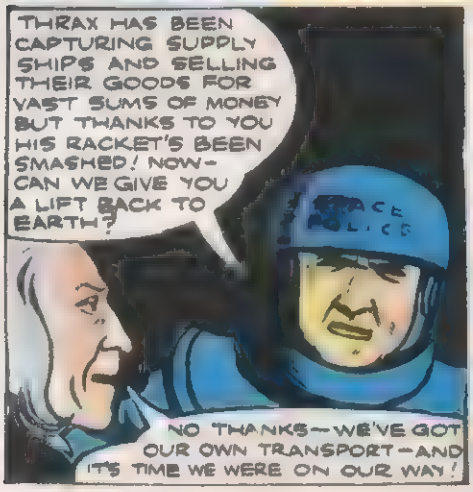












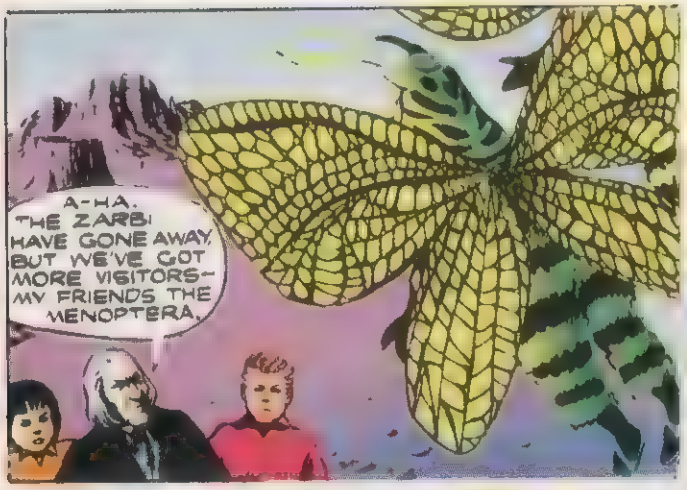
next week

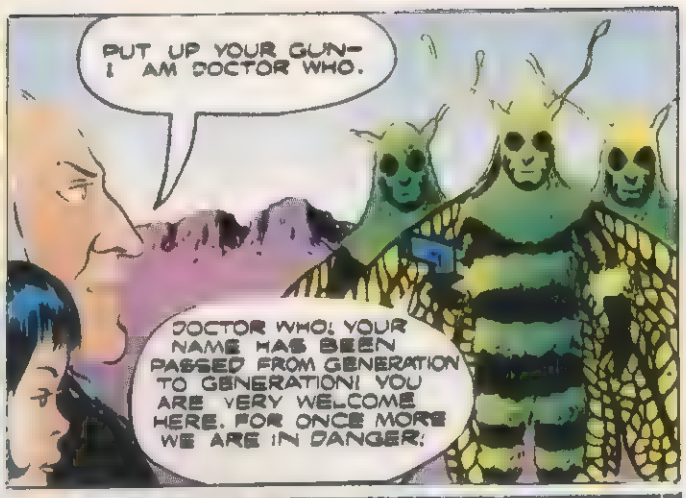
DR WHO meets the ZARBI on the Web Planet!

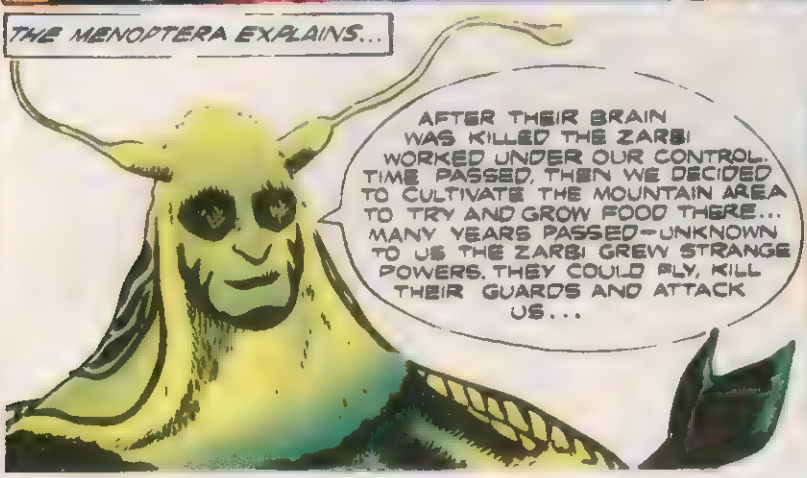
DOCTOR WHO

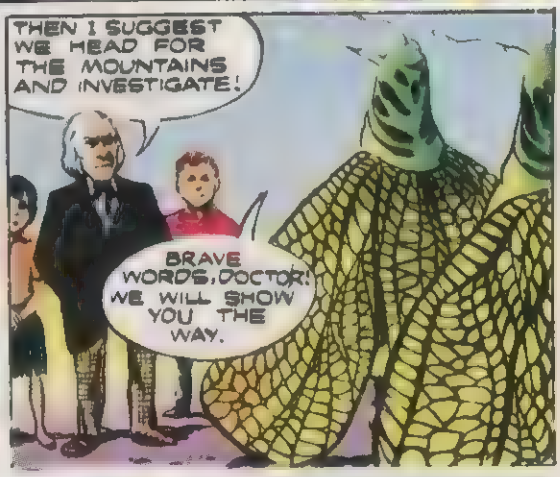
ON THE WEB PLANET

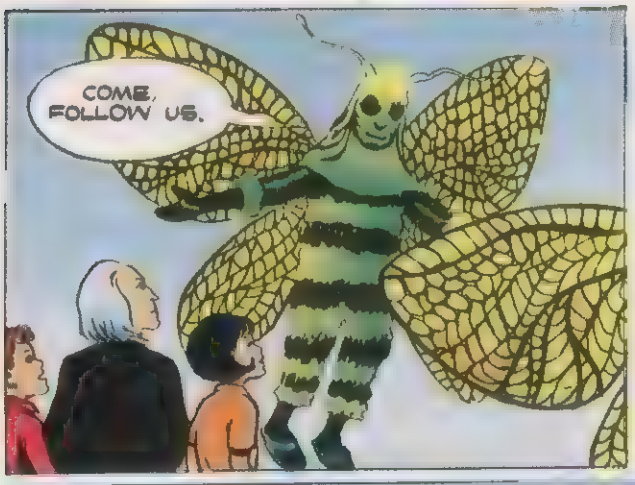
In the uncharted depths of outer space lies the bleak, mysterious planet *Vortis*.

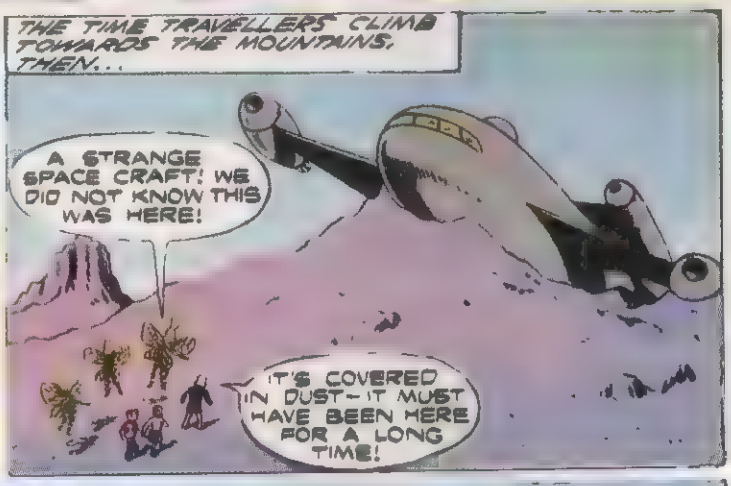

A-HA. THE ZARBI HAVE GONE AWAY, BUT WE'VE GOT MORE VISITORS— MY FRIENDS THE MENOPTERA.

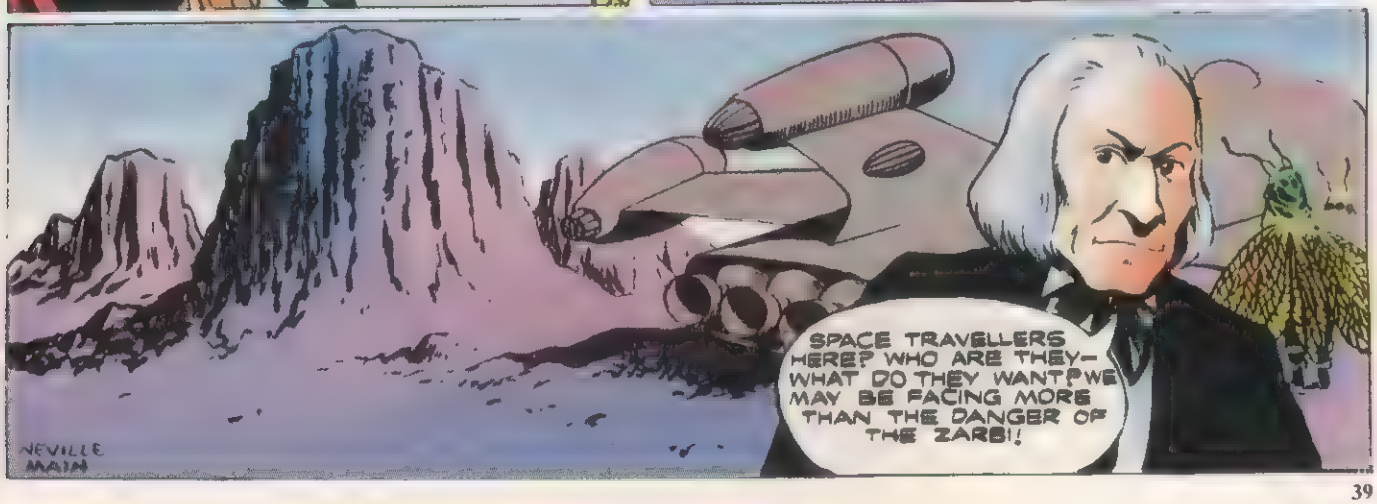

PUT UP YOUR GUN— I AM DOCTOR WHO.
DOCTOR WHO! YOUR NAME HAS BEEN PASSED FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION! YOU ARE VERY WELCOME HERE. FOR ONCE MORE WE ARE IN DANGER!


THE MENOPTERA EXPLAINS...
AFTER THEIR BRAIN WAS KILLED THE ZARBI WORKED UNDER OUR CONTROL. TIME PASSED, THEN WE DECIDED TO CULTIVATE THE MOUNTAIN AREA TO TRY AND GROW FOOD THERE... MANY YEARS PASSED—UNKNOWN TO US THE ZARBI GREW STRANGE POWERS. THEY COULD FLY, KILL THEIR GUARDS AND ATTACK US...


THEN I SUGGEST WE HEAD FOR THE MOUNTAINS AND INVESTIGATE!
BRAVE WORDS, DOCTOR! WE WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY.


COME, FOLLOW US.

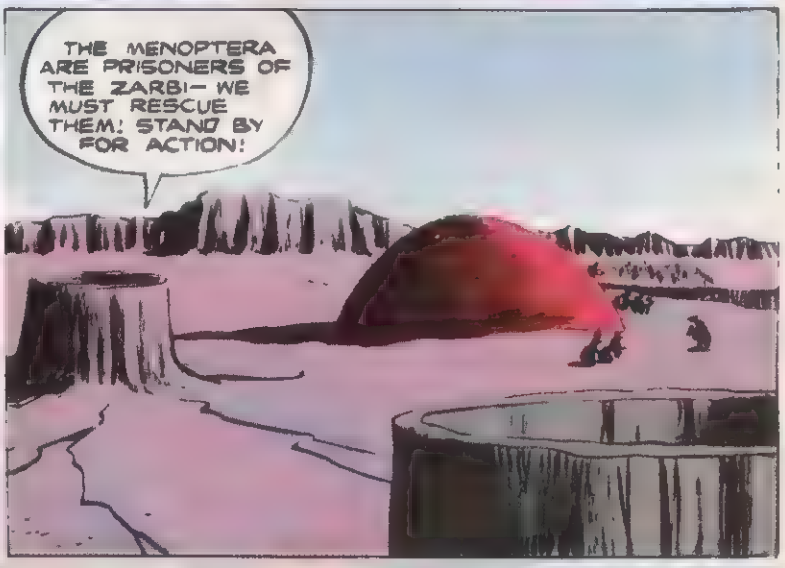

THE TIME TRAVELLERS CLIMB TOWARDS THE MOUNTAINS. THEN...
A STRANGE SPACE CRAFT! WE DID NOT KNOW THIS WAS HERE!
IT'S COVERED IN DUST—IT MUST HAVE BEEN HERE FOR A LONG TIME!


SPACE TRAVELLERS HERE? WHO ARE THEY— WHAT DO THEY WANT? WE MAY BE FACING MORE THAN THE DANGER OF THE ZARBI!
NEVILLE

DOCTOR WHO

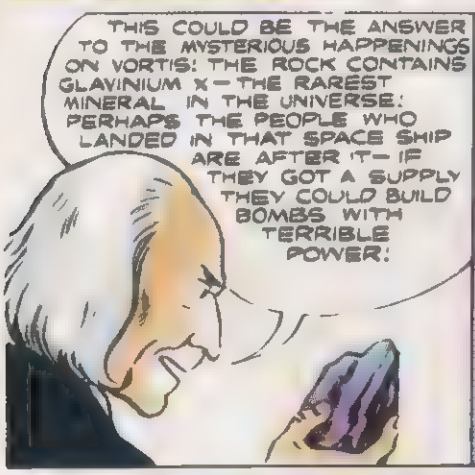
ON THE WEB PLANET

Doctor Who, with John and Gillian, returns to the planet of Vortis. Many years have passed and the Menoptera are again menaced by the Zarbi. High in the mountains they come across a space ship

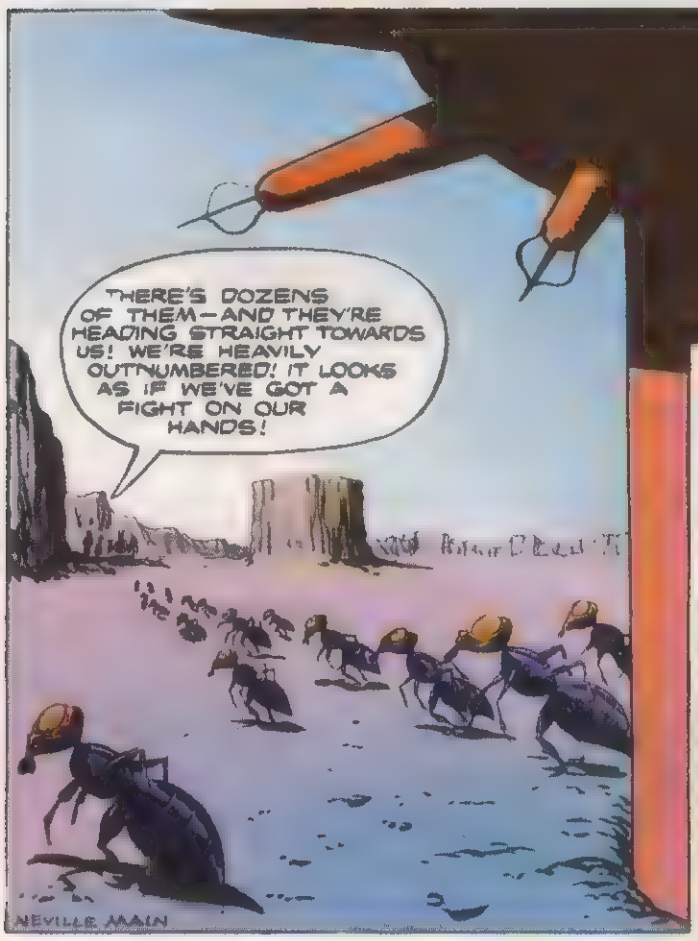


IT'S A GOOD JOB WE WEREN'T IN THE WAY!
THE ZARB HAVE DEVELOPED TERRIBLE WEAPONS OF DESTRUCTION! IT WILL BE VERY HARD TO DEFEAT THEM!

HERE'S A STRANGE ROCK
LET ME HAVE A LOOK AT THAT, MY BOY!


THIS COULD BE THE ANSWER TO THE MYSTERIOUS HAPPENINGS ON VORTIS! THE ROCK CONTAINS GLAVINIUM X—THE RAREST MINERAL IN THE UNIVERSE! PERHAPS THE PEOPLE WHO LANDED IN THAT SPACE SHIP ARE AFTER IT—IF THEY GOT A SUPPLY THEY COULD BUILD BOMBS WITH TERRIBLE POWER!

THEN...
GET READY! A ZARBI IS LEAVING THE MUSHROOM!

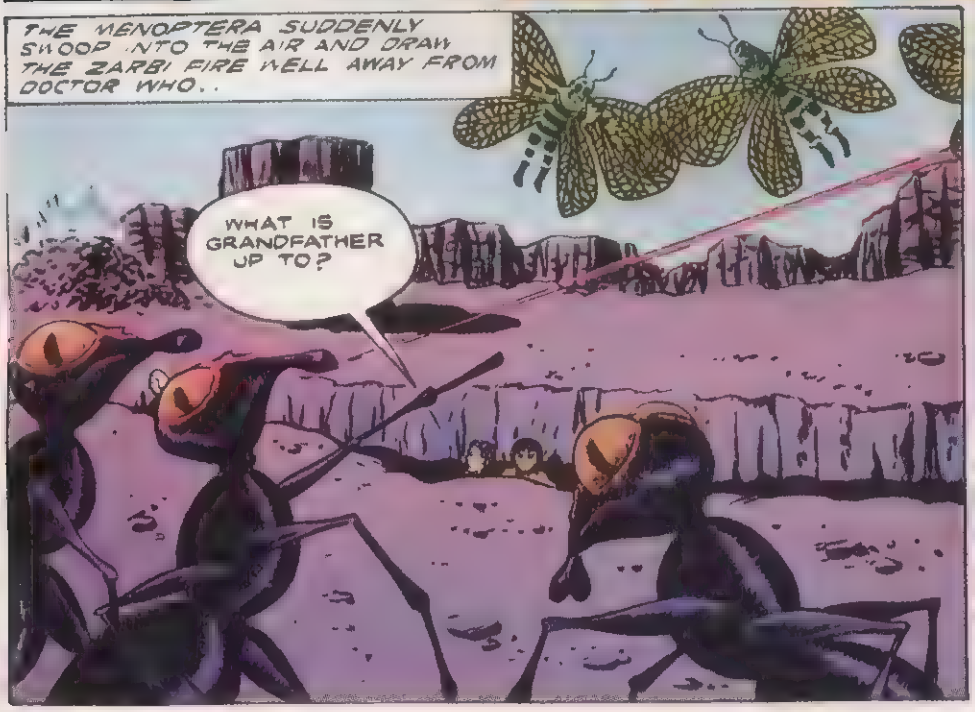

THERE'S DOZENS OF THEM—AND THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT TOWARDS US! WE'RE HEAVILY OUTNUMBERED! IT LOOKS AS IF WE'VE GOT A FIGHT ON OUR HANDS!
NEVILLE MAIN

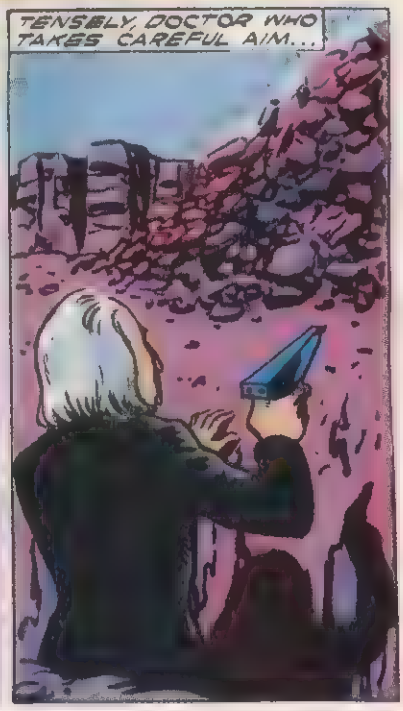
GRANDFATHER JOHN! HELP!

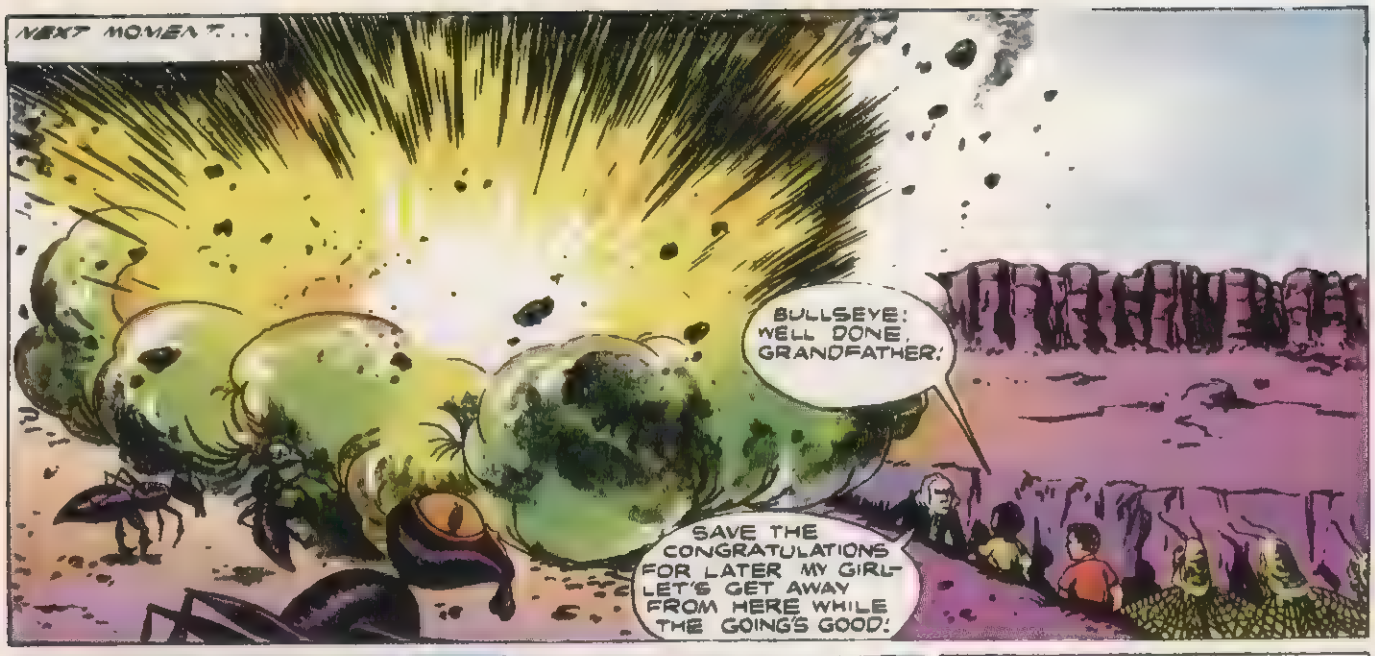
DOCTOR WHO

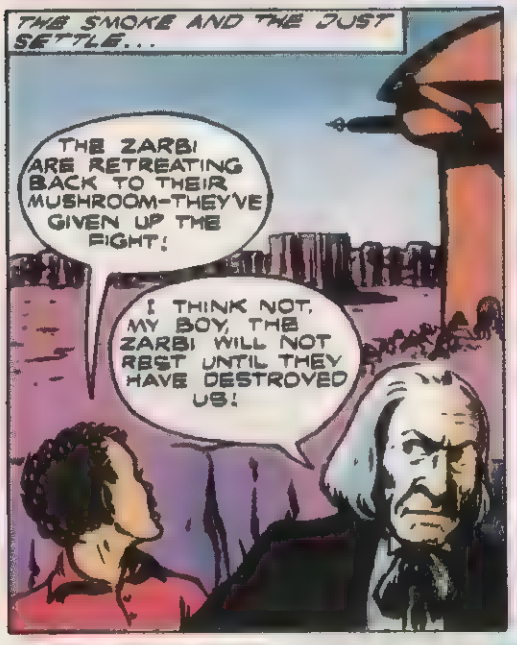
ON THE WEB PLANET

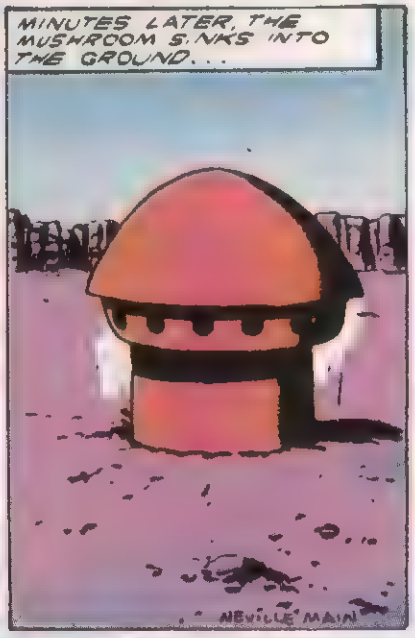
Doctor Who, with John and Gillian, has returned to Vortis where the Menoptera are once again menaced by the Zarbi. They find many Menoptera prisoners forced to mine for a rare mineral. Then they are attacked by the Zarbi.



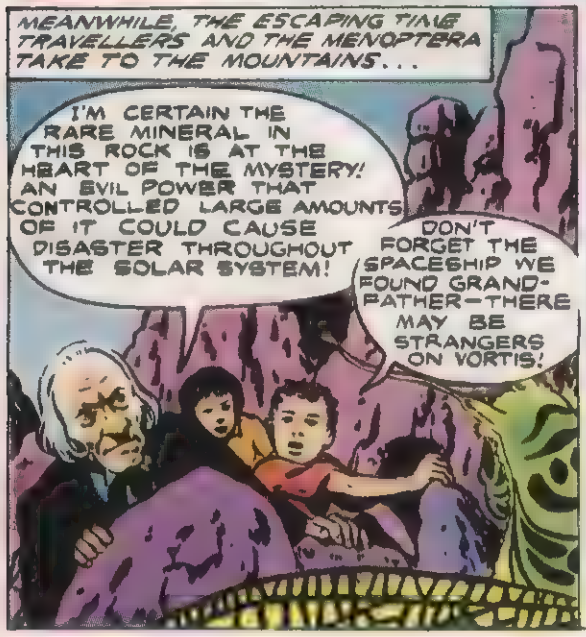


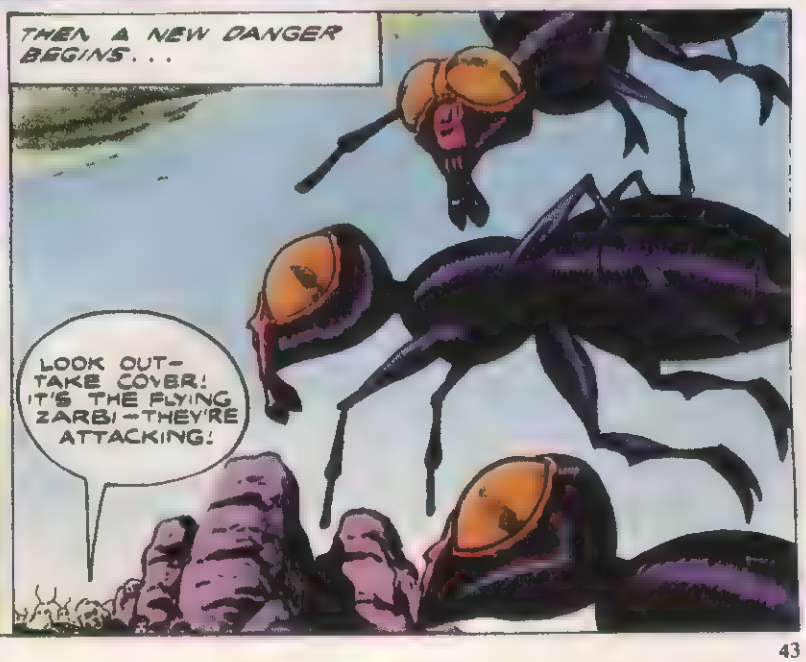

NEXT MOMENT...
BULLSEYE! WELL DONE, GRANDFATHER!
SAVE THE CONGRATULATIONS FOR LATER MY GIRL- LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE WHILE THE GOING'S GOOD!


THE SMOKE AND THE DUST SETTLE...
THE ZARBI ARE RETREATING BACK TO THEIR MUSHROOM-THEY'VE GIVEN UP THE FIGHT!
I THINK NOT, MY BOY, THE ZARBI WILL NOT REST UNTIL THEY HAVE DESTROYED US!


MINUTES LATER, THE MUSHROOM SINKS INTO THE GROUND...
NEVILLE MAIN

THEN A RADIO MESSAGE FLASHES OUT AND A HATCH IN THE TOP OF THE MUSHROOM SLIDES BACK...
OUR SECRET IS IN DANGER... THE MENOPTERA AND THEIR FRIENDS MUST BE DESTROYED...PREPARE PHASE TWO OF THE ATTACK...

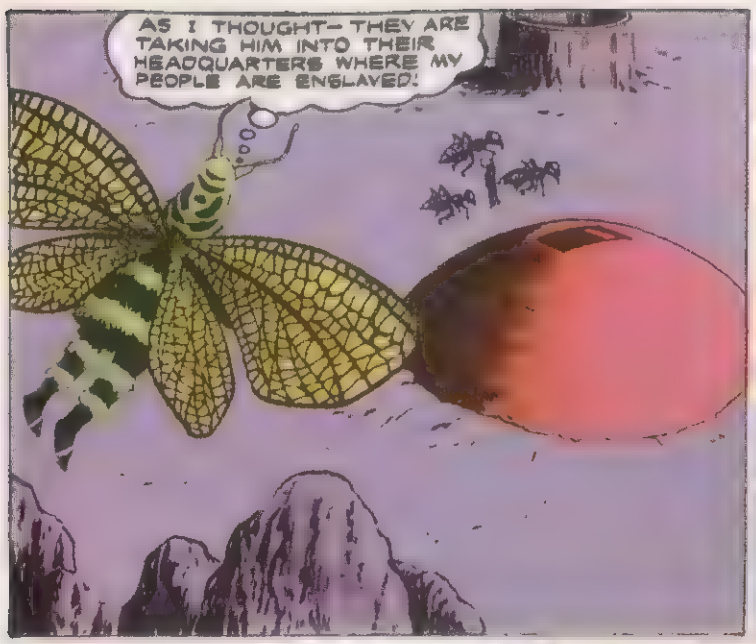

MEANWHILE, THE ESCAPING TIME TRAVELLERS AND THE MENOPTERA TAKE TO THE MOUNTAINS...
I'M CERTAIN THE RARE MINERAL IN THIS ROCK IS AT THE HEART OF THE MYSTERY! AN EVIL POWER THAT CONTROLLED LARGE AMOUNTS OF IT COULD CAUSE DISASTER THROUGHOUT THE SOLAR SYSTEM!
DON'T FORGET THE SPACESHIP WE FOUND GRANDFATHER—THERE MAY BE STRANGERS ON VORTIS!


THEN A NEW DANGER BEGINS...
LOOK OUT- TAKE COVER! IT'S THE FLYING ZARBI—THEY'RE ATTACKING!

DOCTOR WHO

ON THE WEB PLANET

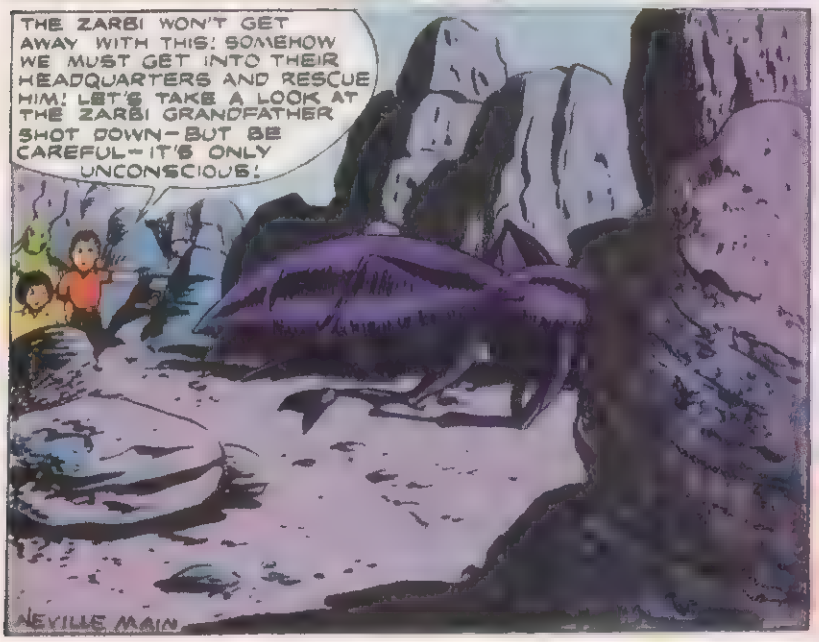
Dr Who, with John and Gillian, is again helping the Menoptera struggle against the Zarbi, who have discovered a rare explosive mineral. High in the mountains of Vortis they are attacked


AS I THOUGHT— THEY ARE TAKING HIM INTO THEIR HEADQUARTERS WHERE MY PEOPLE ARE ENSLAVED!

WHEN THE DOCTOR COMES ROUND...
WHERE AM I? WHAT HIT ME? HALLO—I'VE GOT COMPANY...
ZARBI—BRING THE INTRUDER TO CENTRAL CONTROL...

THIS MUST BE THE ZARBI'S UNDERGROUND HQ! THE NHUMAN MONSTERS— THEY'RE FORCING CAPTURED MENOPTERA TO QUARRY FOR THE RARE MINERAL! BUT WHERE ARE THEY TAKING ME?

MEANWHILE...
WHERE HAVE THEY TAKEN GRANDFATHER— DID YOU SEE?
THE DOCTOR IS THEIR PRISONER IN THE UNDERGROUND HIDE-OUT.

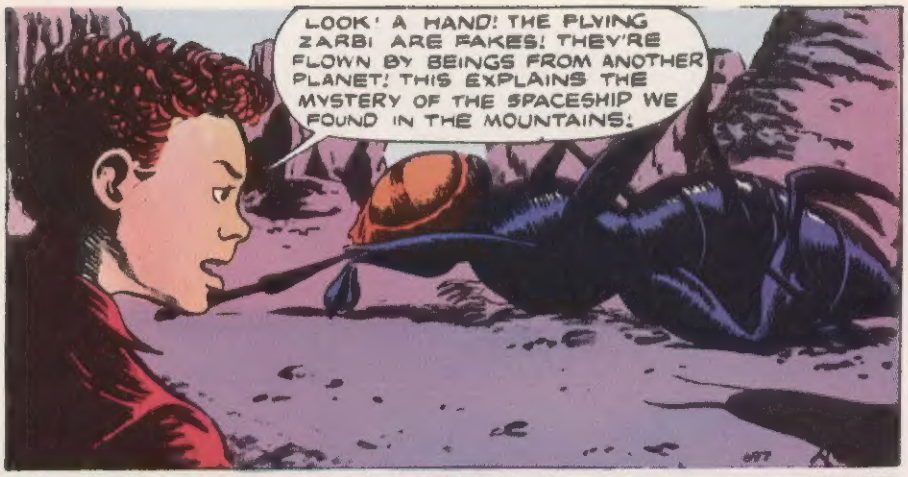

THE ZARBI WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! SOMEHOW WE MUST GET INTO THEIR HEADQUARTERS AND RESCUE HIM! LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE ZARBI GRANDFATHER SHOT DOWN—BUT BE CAREFUL—IT'S ONLY UNCONSCIOUS!
NEVILLE MAIN

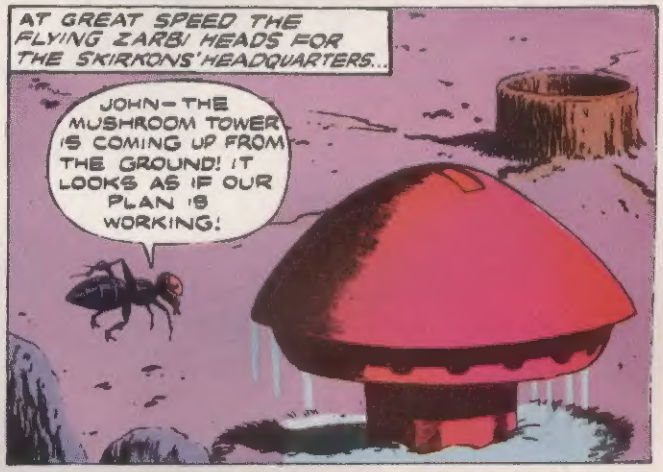
JUPITER—TAKE A LOOK! THIS EXPLAINS EVERYTHING. IT'S NOT A ZARBI AT ALL!

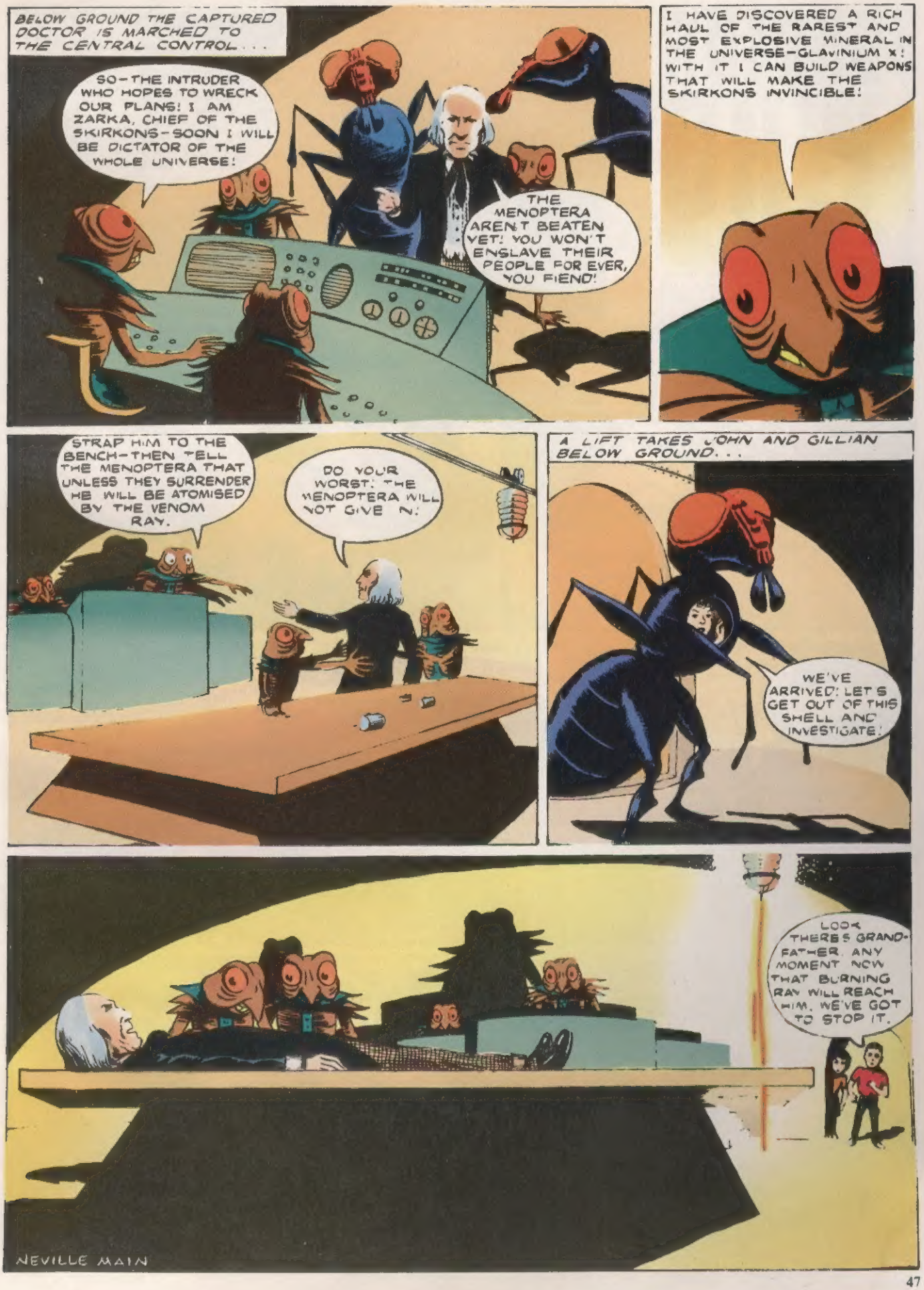
DOCTOR WHO

ON THE WEB PLANET

On the planet Vortis, Doctor Who is captured by the strange flying Zarbi and taken to an underground hideout. Meanwhile John and Gillian with the Menoptera, have shot down one of the flying Zarbi.



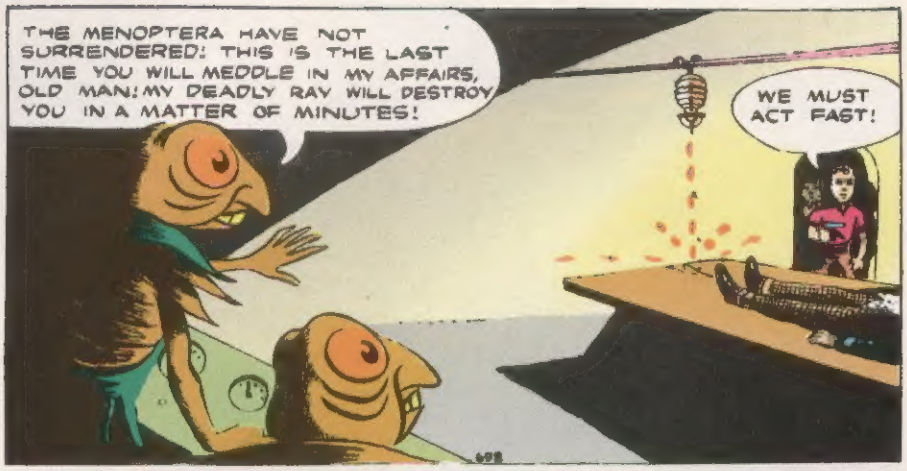


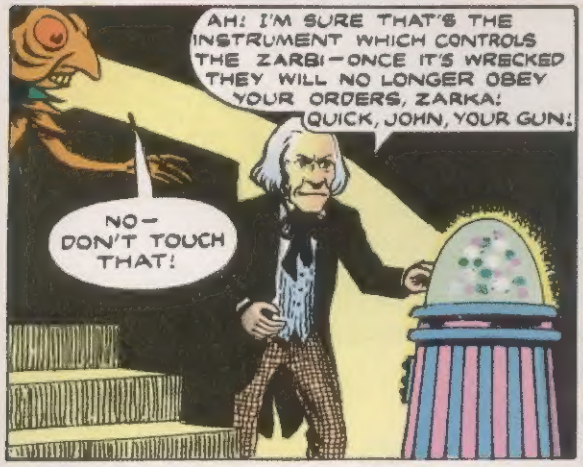

BELOW GROUND THE CAPTURED DOCTOR IS MARCHED TO THE CENTRAL CONTROL...
SO—THE INTRUDER WHO HOPES TO WRECK OUR PLANS! I AM ZARKA, CHIEF OF THE SKIRKONS—SOON I WILL BE DICTATOR OF THE WHOLE UNIVERSE!
THE MENOPTERA AREN'T BEATEN YET! YOU WON'T ENSLAVE THEIR PEOPLE FOR EVER, YOU FIEND!
I HAVE DISCOVERED A RICH HAUL OF THE RAREST AND MOST EXPLOSIVE MINERAL IN THE UNIVERSE—GLAVINIUM X! WITH IT I CAN BUILD WEAPONS THAT WILL MAKE THE SKIRKONS INVINCIBLE!
STRAP HIM TO THE BENCH—THEN TELL THE MENOPTERA THAT UNLESS THEY SURRENDER HE WILL BE ATOMISED BY THE VENOM RAY.
DO YOUR WORST! THE MENOPTERA WILL NOT GIVE IN!
A LIFT TAKES JOHN AND GILLIAN BELOW GROUND...
WE'VE ARRIVED! LET'S GET OUT OF THIS SHELL AND INVESTIGATE!
LOOK THERE'S GRANDFATHER. ANY MOMENT NOW THAT BURNING RAY WILL REACH HIM. WE'VE GOT TO STOP IT.
NEVILLE MAIN

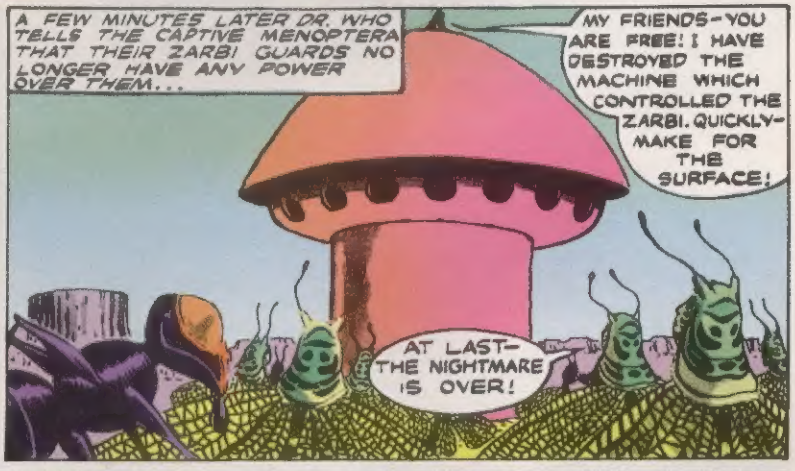
DOCTOR WHO

ON THE WEB PLANET

On the planet Vortis, Doctor Who is captured by the Skirkons who control the Zarbi. John and Gillian get into the underground headquarters in search of the doctor.







Starting next week a NEW Dr Who story